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# COUNTRY LIFE

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All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London.

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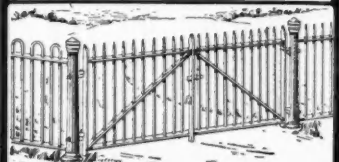
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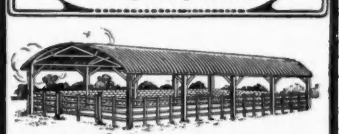
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# COUNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN COUNTRY LIFE  
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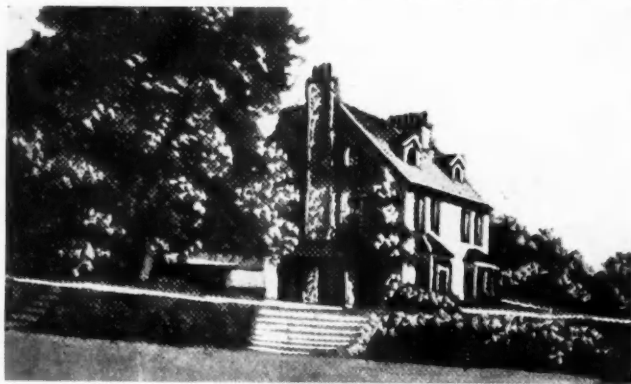
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OVER 3 ACRES

of delightful gardens and paddock.

5 BEDROOMS,

2 BATHROOMS,

3 RECEPTION ROOMS,  
AND EXCELLENT OFFICES.

*Lovely old tiled roof, open brick fireplaces,  
oak beams and exposed roof timbers have  
been carefully preserved and provide a  
delightful interior.*



CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT  
AND WATER.

AN ANCIENT BARN HAS BEEN  
CONVERTED INTO A LARGE  
GARAGE.

STUDIO.

A VERITABLE  
OLD-WORLD GEM  
FREEHOLD 5,000 GNS.

Apply HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6,  
Arlington Street, S.W.1. (B.48,685.) (REG. 8222.)

## SOMERSET AND DORSET BORDERS

FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

A CHOICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, on the outskirts of a small town.

### LOVELY STONE-BUILT HOUSE

with mullioned windows.

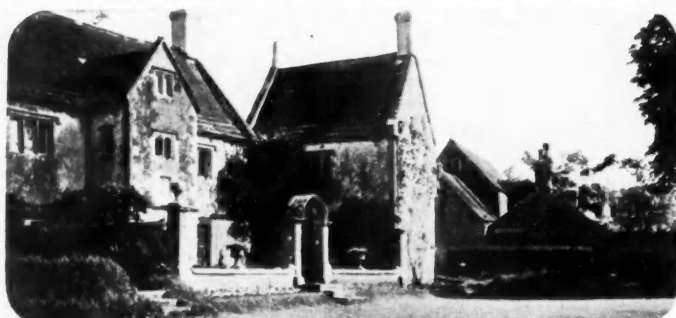
HAVING ALL MODERN CON-  
VENIENCES AND MAIN  
SERVICES.

4 RECEPTION.

10 BEDROOMS.

3 BATHROOMS and  
EXCELLENT OFFICES.

*South aspect.*



LARGE GARAGE.

STABLING AND 2 COTTAGES.

WELL-MATURED GROUNDS

of about

3½ ACRES

With

TENNIS COURT, KITCHEN AND  
FLOWER GARDENS, Paddock, Etc.

Highly recommended by HAMPTON and  
SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St.  
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BRANCH OFFICE: HIGH STREET, WIMBLEDON COMMON (Phone: WIM. 0081).

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MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET  
PICCADILLY, W.1.

ABOUT 45 MILES FROM LONDON  
Amidst unspoilt rural scenery.

**XVth CENTURY CHARACTER HOUSE**  
of real merit, pleasantly mellowed by time, whilst entirely up-to-date.



4 reception, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.  
Main electricity. Central heating. 2 Cottages  
**OLD WORLD GARDENS OF SPECIAL APPEAL  
TO A GARDEN LOVER**  
**MODERATE PRICE WITH 21 ACRES**  
or to be Let Furnished.

Sole Agents, as above.

(17,143.)

**ONLY £1,900** **NORTHANTS**  
Some 300ft. up in a "safe" rural area.

**A GEORGIAN HOUSE**  
with 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, modern conveniences. Stabling. Garage.  
**Well timbered Grounds**, with paddock, etc.; in all  
**ABOUT 2½ ACRES**

Sole Agents, OSBORN & MERCER. (M.2,122.)

**SALOP-CHESHIRE BORDERS**  
**Capital Dairy Farm with Beautiful  
Elizabethan Residence**

Fine range of farmbuildings, cottages, etc.

**ABOUT 240 ACRES**  
**LONG STRETCH OF TROUT FISHING.**  
For Sale by OSBORN & MERCER.

**FARM OF 600 ACRES** (mainly grass).  
For Sale in **HEREFORDSHIRE**. Vacant possession.

**Historical Old House**  
with 9 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, etc.  
**Ample buildings. Several cottages.**  
*Extensive orchards. Trout ponds. Nominal outgoings.*  
Full details from OSBORN & MERCER.

**OXON AND BUCKS BORDERS**  
**ON THE WESTERN SLOPES OF THE  
CHILTERN HILLS**

Completely rural. Fine panoramic views.



**DELIGHTFUL SMALL MODERN HOUSE**

Lounge hall, 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, bathroom.  
**Modern conveniences. Lodge. Stabling. Garage.**  
Matured Gardens: hard tennis court. Paddock and Woodland.

**20 ACRES**

For Sale by OSBORN & MERCER. (14,191.)

3, MOUNT STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.

## RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

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**QUIET BERKSHIRE**  
Between Reading and Windsor.

**PLEASING OLD HOUSE**

in perfect order; 4 reception, 12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms;  
main electricity and water, central heating; stabling  
garage (3); 2 cottages; matured gardens, fine trees;  
meadowland, 12 ACRES.

**FREEHOLD ONLY £6,000.** (12,650.)

**GEORGIAN HOUSE**  
25 miles London (little known Herts).

TO LET FURNISHED.

3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms; central heating,  
water and electricity; garage; gardens and grassland.  
7 ACRES. **RENT 10 GUINEAS PER WEEK**  
(plus gardener). (12,169.)

**ORIGINAL TUDOR FARMHOUSE**

In quaint village (Herts), 40 miles London; magnificent  
interior.

3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms; all main services;  
garage; attractive gardens, meadow and farmbuildings  
if required.

**FREEHOLD ONLY £2,500.** (12,273.)

**QUIET AND SECLUDED POSITION 20 MILES FROM LONDON**  
DELIGHTFUL VIEWS TO THE SOUTH OVER RURAL COUNTRY.

**DISTINCTIVE GEORGIAN  
RESIDENCE**

13 14 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS.  
4 RECEPTION ROOMS.

Main services. Central heating.  
Fitted basins in every bedroom.

Stabling. Garages. Cottage.

**MOST ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS**

with hard tennis court; productive kitchen  
garden; in all about

**25 ACRES**

**TO BE LET UNFURNISHED, OR PARTIALLY FURNISHED**  
FOR A TERM OF YEARS.

Full details of Owner's Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, W.1.



### AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENTS FOR SALE

**CAPITAL COTSWOLD FARM**  
of over

**400 ACRES**

FIRST-CLASS FARMHOUSE AND COMMODIOUS  
FARMBUILDINGS.

5 Cottages.

**A SOUND 4 per cent. INVESTMENT**

**BUCKS.-BED. BORDERS**  
**VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL ESTATE**

comprising

A COMPACT BLOCK OF FARMS  
of about

**850 ACRES**

NOMINAL OUTGOINGS.

**MIDLANDS**  
**FOUR FIRST-CLASS FARMS**

extending to about

**700 ACRES**

with attractive HOMESTEADS AND COMPLETE SETS  
OF BUILDINGS (all in excellent state of repair),  
producing a

**GROSS INCOME OF OVER £1,100 p.a.**  
NOMINAL OUTGOINGS.

Full details of the above apply Messrs. RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, 3, Mount Street, W.1.

AUCTIONEERS, LAND AND ESTATE  
AGENTS, SURVEYORS AND VALUERS,

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Telephone:  
Grosvenor 3056  
(5 lines).

### NORTH COTSWOLDS

BETWEEN OXFORD AND STRATFORD-ON-AVON: COMPLETELY UNSPOILT SURROUNDINGS.  
**A XVth CENTURY COTSWOLD MANOR IN PERFECT CONDITION**



LOUNGE HALL, 3 SITTING ROOMS, CLOAKROOM, 6 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS,  
3 SERVANTS' ROOMS, UP-TO-DATE OFFICES.

MAIN ELECTRICITY. REFRIGERATOR. ELECTRIC RADIATORS.  
TELEPHONE. WATER BY ELECTRIC PUMPS. SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE  
and every modern equipment for comfort and convenience.

GARAGE, ETC.

OLD-WORLD GARDENS.

A DELIGHTFUL SETTING FOR THE HOUSE. Orchard and garage: hard tennis court. All fixtures and  
fittings, fitted carpets and curtains, linoleums and certain furniture included in the price.

**3 ACRES.**

**REASONABLE PRICE**

**OR WOULD BE LET FURNISHED**

Inspected and recommended by the Agents: Messrs. LOFTS & WARNER, 41, Berkeley Square, W.1. (Tel.: Grosvenor 3056.)




**GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS**  
(ESTABLISHED 1778)  
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1.

Telephone No.  
Grosvenor 1553 (4 lines)


And at  
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
12, Victoria Street,  
Westminster, S.W.1.

**WESTERN COUNTIES**  
NEAR MARKET TOWN.




**ARCHITECT-BUILT RESIDENCE**  
3 reception, Study, 5 bed and dressing, 3 baths.  
Main electric light and water, modern drainage,  
central heating.  
DOUBLE GARAGE. 2 ACRES OF GROUND  
**FOR SALE FREEHOLD**  
Particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount  
Street, W.1. (C.7071.)

**SOUTH DOWNS**  
*Reach of excellent electric trains to London.*



**CHARMING MODERN HOUSE**  
with all main services and fitted basins in bedrooms.  
7 bed, 2 bath, 3 reception rooms. Garage.  
2 ACRES SECLUDED GARDEN, kitchen garden, orchard.  
**PRICE £3,500**  
The contents can be purchased if desired; 15 acres grass-  
land also available.  
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (C.2006)

**ABOUT 1 HOUR'S RAIL OF TOWN**  
*and 38 miles by road.*



**£6,500.**—A MODERN UP-TO-DATE RESI-  
DENCE with 7 principal bedrooms, 2  
bathrooms, etc.; main electric light and water; garage;  
lovely wooded grounds; tennis court; kitchen gardens  
and paddock.  
**FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 7 ACRES**  
Inspected and highly recommended by GEORGE  
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**F. L. MERCER & CO.**  
SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES  
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1. Telephone: REGENT 2481.

**SUSSEX, NEAR HAYWARDS HEATH. 50 MINUTES LONDON**  
FOR PRIVATE OCCUPATION OR SUITABLE AS COUNTRY OFFICES.  
A MEDIUM-SIZED HOUSE OF CHARMING CHARACTER



modernised and improved regardless of cost and in  
exceptionally good order; lounge hall, 4 reception  
rooms, 11 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms;  
Esse cooker; central heating throughout; basins in  
nearly all bedrooms; electricity and water from mains.  
Large garage, entrance lodge, stabling, separate cottage.  
Beautiful well-timbered grounds with

RIVER AND TROUT POOL.

SIX ACRES of valuable woodland (mostly oaks) and  
7 enclosures of pasture.

**FREEHOLD**



**ONLY £6,750 WITH 44 ACRES**  
Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Tel.: Regent 2481.)

**WORCESTERSHIRE**  
IN A SELECT RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT 11 MILES FROM BIRMINGHAM  
CLOSE TO WELL-KNOWN GOLF LINKS. AMIDST CHARMING SURROUNDINGS. QUIET AND SECLUDED



**ONLY £3,750 IS ASKED**  
for this beautifully-appointed detached FREEHOLD  
RESIDENCE of charming character, which has  
recently had large sums of money expended on well-  
conceived improvements. It is in perfect condition  
in every respect, equipped with every modern luxury  
and ready for immediate occupation.

Lounge hall, 3 reception, 6-7 bedrooms, 2 elegant  
modern bathrooms.

Central heating. All main services connected.

HEATED DOUBLE GARAGE.

MOST ATTRACTIVE GARDENS  
*designed for economical upkeep.*



This unique property is unexpectedly for Sale in consequence of the owner having purchased a larger place in the district  
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**LAND, ESTATES AND OTHER  
PROPERTIES WANTED**

**WANTED TO RENT OR PURCHASE  
LARGE HOUSE**  
WITH MINIMUM OF 10 BEDROOMS.  
IN SAFE AREA.  
R. BERNSTEIN, 39/40, ALDERSGATE STREET,  
LONDON, E.C.1.

J. & H. DREW, F.S.I.,  
38, WEST SOUTHERNHAY, EXETER,  
have an applicant urgently requiring a  
COUNTRY ESTATE of 300 to 600 ACRES in a safe area,  
with good Shooting and Fishing available, preferably on the  
Estate. A suitable property would be viewed at once.  
South-West country preferred, but not essential.

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**  
**ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT PROPERTY.**  
corner site; central; situated in safe area, STIRLING-  
SHIRE, SCOTLAND; land with subjects approximates  
2 ACRES; country district; population 12,000; easy  
access to Edinburgh and Glasgow; suitable for private  
dwelling or capable of alteration for substantial business  
premises; almost immediate entry; hot and cold water;  
substantial garage accommodation; feu duty £2; assessed  
rental moderate. Offers and inspection invited.—Apply to  
THOMAS CASSELLS, M.P., Solicitor, Falkirk.

**DEVON AND S. & W. COUNTIES**  
THE ONLY COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED REGISTER.  
Price 2.6.  
SELECTED LISTS FREE.  
RIPPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I.,  
(Est. 1884.) EXETER.

**FOR SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORD, WORCS., etc.,  
and MID WALES, apply leading Agents: (Phone: 2061.)  
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**LEICESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING COUNTIES  
HOLLOWAY, PRICE & CO.,  
(ESTABLISHED 1809.) MARKET HARBOUROUGH.  
LAND AGENTS, AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS**

**HAMPSHIRE & SOUTHERN COUNTIES**  
17, Above Bar, Southampton. WALLER & KING, F.A.I.  
Business Established over 100 years.

5, MOUNT STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.

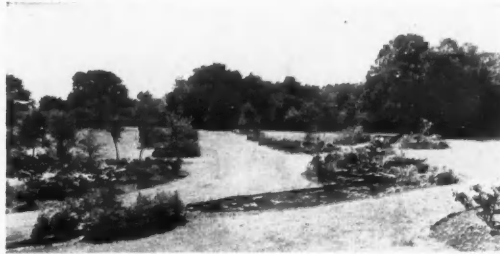
## CURTIS & HENSON

Telephones :  
Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines).  
ESTABLISHED 1875.

### 12 MILES SOUTH-WEST OF GUILDFORD



**A very Charming Residence**  
built in the farmhouse style.  
*Up to date and in first-class order throughout.*  
3 RECEPTION ROOMS,  
8 BEDROOMS,  
2 BATHROOMS.  
Main water, gas and electricity.  
GARAGE (for 2 cars).  
2 EXCELLENT COTTAGES.  
Delightful playroom.  
LAWN TENNIS COURT.  
PROLIFIC KITCHEN GARDEN.



*Beautiful Grounds and fine woodland merging into heathland and several paddocks.*

**For Sale Freehold with from about 25 to 72 Acres**

GOLF AT HINDHEAD.

RIDING OVER MILES OF COMMONLAND.

Confidently recommended by the Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON. (16,432.)

**STAFFORDSHIRE** (Stoke-on-Trent district and within half-an-hour's drive of Dove Dale). Artistic MODERN RESIDENCE, strongly built, with cement cream-coloured surface and slated roof. 3 large reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, expensively fitted bathroom. Electricity and heating. 2 Garages. Beautifully arranged Garden. Tennis court and lawn. South aspect and open views. TO LET FURNISHED or FOR SALE with or without 5 Acres of grounds. (15,477A)

**DORSETSHIRE.**—A Fine RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE, comprising Charming Old Tudor Residence, 2 excellent Farms of 900 Acres; 15 Cottages. Pastureland in hand. Fishing and sporting rights. In all about 1,000 Acres. Surrounded by a ring fence.

FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE.

(14,983.)

**BERKSHIRE** (about 12 miles from Reading, and conveniently placed in a village).—4 reception rooms, 16 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms. Electric light; part central heating. Garage for 4 cars with rooms for chauffeur. Grass tennis court. Over 12 acres of grounds. Well-stocked kitchen gardens.

TO LET FURNISHED AT A REASONABLE RENT, or FOR SALE. (8950.)

### SOMERSET

*Yeovil 7 miles.*

#### ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT HOUSE

with old mullion windows, standing in finely timbered grounds.

3-4 reception rooms, 11 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, model offices.

*Electric light. Main water.*

GARAGE AND STABLING.

Gardener's cottage.

CHARMING GARDENS AND GROUNDS interspersed with specimen timber trees, walled kitchen garden and pastureland; in all about 9½ ACRES. HUNTING AND GOLF.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT A REDUCED PRICE**

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,325.)

### DORSETSHIRE

WITHIN 1 MILE OF VILLAGE AND 2 MILES OF THE STATION.

#### A SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE

IN BEAUTIFUL PARK-LIKE GROUNDS.

Approached by a long carriage drive.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS, EXCELLENT OFFICES,

4 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS.

2 SERVANTS' BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS.

(H. and c. water supplies to bedrooms and cloakroom.)

*Ample water supply. Central heating.*

2 LARGE GARAGES. 4 GOOD LOOSE BOXES.

SECLUDED GROUNDS, including a squash court;

in all about 20 ACRES.

**FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT A REASONABLE PRICE**

Recommended: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (15,321.)



Also at  
RUGBY,  
BIRMINGHAM,

## JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1. (Regent 0911.)

OXFORD,  
CHIPPING  
NORTON.

### MID-HERTS

"WILLIAM AND MARY" (1690) COUNTRY RESIDENCE, 1 mile station with excellent train service, also bus service; 3 sitting rooms, 10 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms; main water and electricity; garage, etc.; secluded gardens, orchard, etc., of about 3 ACRES.

PRICE FREEHOLD £4,750, or close offer. (L.R.2741.)

BETWEEN

### WINCHESTER & NEWBURY

**£5,000 FREEHOLD**, for a lovely old COUNTRY COTTAGE RESIDENCE, modernised, with 160 ACRES (100 let off).

A REAL BARGAIN.

3 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms; main electricity and power; fine buildings and charming small garden.

Sole Agents, JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.15,648.)

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(Some with possession and others as investments).  
**OXFORDSHIRE** (mile from market town, 10 miles Oxford).—GRASS FARM of 100 ACRES, WITH LOVELY OLD HOUSE; ample buildings, 4 cottages. Price £4,400 (mortgage arranged). (L.F.15,693.)

**MID-HAMPSHIRE** (convenient for four important markets).—GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, 350 ACRES (principally grass); cowsheds for 70, piggeries for 200; 4 cottages; valuable milk contracts (over 100 gallons daily). FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION OR AS AN INVESTMENT. (L.F.15,347.)

**NORTH-MIDLANDS** (towards Welsh Borders).—TWO FARMS (worked together) of 354 ACRES. Also two good Residences, two sets of buildings, three cottages. FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION OR AS AN INVESTMENT. (L.F.15,702.)

**30 MILES LONDON.**—275 ACRES, ARABLE FARM; fine district; good House. An excellent opportunity. (L.F.15,700.)

**WILTSHIRE.**—500 ACRES, with Cotswold-type Residence; tyngs for 52 cows; cottages. FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION OR AS AN INVESTMENT. (L.F.10,013.)

### CENTRAL DEVON

14 Acres. 3 Cottages. £3,500.

FINE OLD STONE-BUILT COUNTRY RESIDENCE, situated in a beautiful and quiet district, connected by motor bus service with Exeter; 400ft. above sea level, lovely views; 3 sitting rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms; modern conveniences.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. (L.R.19,618.)

### OXON BORDERS

500 FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL. 1 mile station; beautiful district; everything in splendid order; modern conveniences; 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms (can be enlarged); bathroom; economical gardens and grassland of about 10 acres.

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,500.

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TOTTENHAM  
COURT RD., W.1  
(EUSTON 7000)

## MAPLE & CO., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST.,  
MAYFAIR, W.1  
(REGENT 4685)

TO HOUSEHOLDERS, TRUSTEES, ETC.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

YOUR ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO THE ADVISABILITY OF HAVING PREPARED A COMPLETE INVENTORY AND VALUATION OF YOUR FURNITURE AND STRUCTURE FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES, AND TO SUPPORT ANY CLAIM ARISING THROUGH WAR DAMAGE.

MAPLE & CO. ARE IN A POSITION TO UNDERTAKE THIS WORK, AND A QUOTATION WILL BE GIVEN FOR COUNTRY, TOWN RESIDENCES, AND FLATS UPON APPLICATION TO THE VALUATION DEPT., EUSTON 7000 OR REGENT 4685.

### HAMPSHIRE

Near a nice old town.  
**FOR SALE, £8,000, with 60 ACRES**



THE ABOVE CHOICE MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE, in the Queen Anne style, approached by long drive; large hall with panelled walls, beautiful drawing room, dining room, morning room, 11 or 12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms; electric light; fitted basins in bedrooms; 4 heated garages, lodge, 2 cottages; fine gardens with swimming pool, picturesque woodland and park-like meadows.—Recommended by MAPLE & CO., as above.

### BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS

FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

**DELIGHTFUL HOUSE AND GROUNDS OF 1¼ ACRES**

SITUATE IN THE BEST PART OF THIS FAVOURITE DISTRICT.

*It has all modern comforts, central heating, fitted lavatory basins, oak floors, etc.*

HALL. FINE DRAWING ROOM. DINING ROOM. 7 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS.

GARAGES.

GARDENS include hard tennis court, and open on to beautiful woodland in rear.

Recommended by Sole Agents: MAPLE & CO., 5, Grafton Street, Old Bond Street, W.1.

14, MOUNT STREET,  
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

## WILSON & CO.

Telephone:  
Grosvenor 1441 (three lines.)

### YORKSHIRE. HIGH UP WITH SUPERB VIEWS. EASY REACH OF YORK



#### Beautifully Appointed STONE-BUILT HOUSE

in splendid order. Up-to-date in every respect.

Electricity. Radiators throughout.

Wash basins (h. and c.) to bedrooms.

4 charming reception rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, 3 baths.

Stabling. Garages. Cottage.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS.

Woodland and Paddocks.

16 ACRES. FOR SALE

MIGHT BE LET FURNISHED.



Sole Agents: WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, London, W.1. Personally inspected and recommended.

#### VALLEY OF THE USK

8 miles from Aberystwyth.



#### ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT HOUSE

700ft. up with magnificent south views. In perfect order: every modern convenience: main electric light and power, central heating: 12 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge and 3 charming reception rooms: garage, flat, stabling, cottage; inexpensive Gardens and Farmery.

£5,750 WITH 25 ACRES

Sole Agents: WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

#### 1 HOUR NORTH OF LONDON



#### XVth CENTURY REPLICA

10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.

Squash Court. Stabling. Garages. Cottage.

Delightful Gardens, Woods and Pastures.

FOR SALE WITH 60 ACRES

Agents: WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

#### BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

With many period features.



Set within Old-World Gardens and Miniature Park of 10 ACRES, within easy reach of London, in rural Sussex. 13 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge and 4 reception.

Garage. Stabling. Cottages.

FOR SALE OR TO LET FURNISHED

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Telephone:  
Grosvenor 2252  
(6 lines)

## CONSTABLE & MAUDE

2, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1

#### SUSSEX FARM BARGAIN

Excellent dairy holding of

162 ACRES

the subject of considerable expenditure.

Picturesque old farm house with 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, larder, etc.

Garage. Capital Cottage.

Excellent farmbuildings. Valuable road frontages.

PRICE £4,250

Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

#### ON THE BORDERS OF NORTHANTS AND WARWICKSHIRE

#### FOR SALE AS AN INVESTMENT AN EXCELLENT FARM

within easy reach of important centre, and Farm-house with 8 rooms, etc.

GOOD OUTBUILDINGS. 2 CAPITAL COTTAGES.

LAND COMPRISES 180 ACRES  
(MAINLY PASTURE).

Apply CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

#### WILTS. ON THE BORDERS OF HANTS

#### EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE ESTATE IN MINIATURE

2 halls, 4 reception rooms, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Every convenience and comfort.

Garage. Stabling. 2 lodges.

Lovely gardens and park

ABOUT 84 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1

#### CAPITAL FARM INVESTMENT IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

FARM OF 200 ACRES

in a ring fence

STONE-BUILT FARMHOUSE

with 5-8 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 sitting rooms.

Modern Farm Buildings.

LET ON AN ANNUAL TENANCY.

TO BE SOLD

Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

#### HAMPSHIRE AND WEST SUSSEX BORDERS

Close to a first-class golf course and beautiful commons. Perfectly equipped.

#### XVth Century Stone-Built RESIDENCE

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Every comfort and all Company's services.

Oast houses; converted barn; 2 cottages; garages.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS with fine timber.

12½ ACRES.

For SALE, or would be LET Unfurnished

Sole Agents: CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W.1.

#### DEVON ACCESSIBLE AND EXCELLENTLY FITTED MANSION

20 bedrooms, 3 reception and billiards rooms, 3 bathrooms.

COTTAGES.

SPACIOUS OUTBUILDINGS.

ABOUT 86 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

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**SAFE AREA** (Wharfedale).—Small XVth-Century COUNTRY HOUSE, within half-hour Leeds, Bradford, Harrogate. Recently converted and modernised regardless of expense. 3 sitting rooms, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms. Central heating; electric light; triplex range. Hot and cold water in bedrooms. Large garage. 1½ acres garden and orchard. —Write Box 623, c/o JUDDS, 47, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

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Tennis lawn, rock garden, kitchen garden, orchard and paddock: 5 ACRES.

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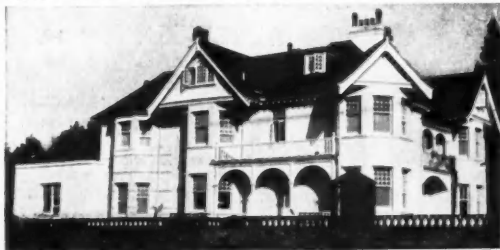


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Containing

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c.3

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# COUNTRY LIFE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 1940

Vol. LXXXVIII. No. 2287



*Bassano*

*38, Dover Street, W.1.*

## THE HON. MRS. DE LASZLO

The Hon. Mrs. de Laszlo is the second daughter of Viscount and Viscountess Greenwood. Her marriage to Mr. Patrick David de Laszlo, fourth son of the late Philip A. de Laszlo, took place recently.

# COUNTRY LIFE

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 Telegrams: "COUNTRY LIFE," LONDON; Telephone: TEMPLE BAR 7351  
 Advertisements: TOWER HOUSE, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, W.C.2. Telephone: TEMPLE BAR 4363

"Country Life" Crossword No. 564 p. xv.

**POSTAL CHARGES.**—The Editor reminds correspondents and contributors that any communications requiring a reply must be accompanied by the requisite stamps. Notice is given that MSS. submitted will not be returned unless this condition is complied with.

POSTAGES ON THIS ISSUE: INLAND 2d., CANADA 14d., ABROAD 2d.

## REFORMING THE HOME GUARD

SIR EDWARD GRIGG'S announcement of changes in the Home Guard was timely, even if it did not entirely solve the problem that has been worrying the rank and file of the corps, and evidently the War Office, in recent weeks. The problem is not due to the coming of winter, with long nights encroaching on the time for training and considerably adding to physical discomforts. There is still any amount of keenness that readily overlooks deficiencies in the very generous issue of equipment. Nor is it a question of pay. The Home Guards joined up because they thought the country needed them, not for any money consideration. The source of the discontent which, unless it was dealt with, has led to fears that the numbers of the force would have very much shrunk by next spring, was, at bottom, a growing doubt of the real need for the sacrifices of time and energy involved. This was perhaps inevitable. As the immediate danger of invasion receded the original impulse slackened; and, as always tends to happen with volunteers, when the elementary stage of training was passed men began to ask "What next?" But there was no valid reason for the Home Guard to have been allowed to feel, as so many of them have, that the future held nothing but monotonously elementary duties of doubtful utility.

The Under Secretary for War at least left no doubt of the importance attached to the Home Guard by the authorities. Their contact with the Army is to be greatly increased, and the giving of commissioned rank to Home Guard officers will enable them, if necessary, to take charge of Regular troops. There seems, however, to be the root of a fresh set of difficulties here. Many Home Guards bear high rank on the retired list. While they would readily exchange it for the curious Guard ranks, it is asking a lot of a major-general or colonel to become a second-lieutenant. And is this policy of militarisation founded on acquaintance with the facts? The country units of the Home Guard are already full-time workers. As observers, scouts, stalkers, and for harassing parachute troops, they are highly effective. But to expect them to become as efficient as even Territorial troops is a dangerous delusion. Some *liaison* with the Army is obviously needful. In some commands the Army has already been of great help, appointing whole-time *liaison* officers for the Home Guard. In others, the *liaison* has seemed to be limited to the interchange of voluminous correspondence. It is more important that local Home Guard units should work up *liaison* with one another and perfect their co-operation with the police and A.R.P. services. In many country districts it is no easy matter for detached units to keep touch among themselves. In this respect the extension of the capitation grant to cover clerical work, transport, and telephones will be very serviceable. As a result of the intensive training courses for officers which, already of great service, will no doubt be improved by the War Office taking over the Osterley school, there will certainly now be no reason for any Home Guard to be in doubt of what he has got to do. There will be quite enough to keep every man occupied through the winter months.

Two suggestions are worth emphasising. One, already put forward by Major Jarvis in these pages, is the creation where possible of Home Guard club-rooms, where members can normally foregather—play darts, get to know each other, and, incidentally, keep contact. The room generally used for instruction parades could in many cases be so used. In fostering *esprit de corps* it will, incidentally, serve a good purpose to familiarise the men with the traditions of service that they inherit with the regimental badge they now have the honour to bear—traditions which the current series of notes in COUNTRY LIFE give in convenient abbreviation. The second suggestion has been

alluded to above. It is the need for closer contact with other local services. No reference was made to this by the Under Secretary; it is largely a matter for the initiative of local commanders. But it is important, and definite instructions requiring co-operation should be issued not only by the War Office but by the Home Office to the various civil defence services.

## THE MAN OF PEACE

HISTORY will give Neville Chamberlain his rightful place among British statesmen. To the average Englishman to-day his death is the more poignant because he knows all too well the bitter disillusion that must have clouded, and shortened, the last days of a man who never flinched from facing the most appalling decisions that spelt the opposite to all he looked for in life. As Prime Minister Mr. Chamberlain represented all too genuinely the outlook, the faiths, the virtues and the limitations of most of us. Like the nation he led, he was essentially a man of peace, and among his greatest achievements was, as Minister of Health, the procuring of two million new houses. Shy and reserved by nature—a characteristic that makes all the more admirable the spiritual effort involved in his statesmanship—Mr. Chamberlain found his chief solace in the quiet man's sport of fishing and, which is less generally realised, in the study of nature. As an example of the readiness with which he would snatch a moment from the heaviest cares to turn to nature study, there is a letter dated March 14th, 1938—the time, it will be remembered, of the German-Austrian *Anschluss*—discussing the curious discernment of the cuckoo in selecting for its egg only the nest of the species by which it has itself been reared. In a characteristic phrase he regrets that his opportunities to pursue that and similar investigations further "are very meagre at present." To such peaceful pursuits he looked forward, and to his ever-loyal helpmate goes the sympathy of all liberty-loving folk that he has not lived to enjoy them again, and the justification that, on the greater stage, will probably be his.

## YOUTH IN TRAINING

THE Greeks are now our Allies. The civilised world, for the salvation of which we stand together in arms, undoubtedly owes far more to the Greeks of a former day than to any other people. And this for what might be thought a strange reason. They were great warriors, and great civilisers, and they built their empire and their civilisation on the training of youth—not, as in the Germany of to-day, for purposes of domination and destruction, but because they thought and believed it the only proper way to life. We have had for many years past, in the Boy Scouts' organisation, a plan founded on the old ideals and it has been remarkably successful. It is apparently not so successful to-day, for it is seldom mentioned by those who are seeking to bridge the gap between school and manhood by a real training both for peace and war. Mr. Noel Baker, Mr. Henry Brooke, and presumably most of the rest of the House of Commons are trying to influence the Board of Education to produce some sort of scheme which will fit our race in future to carry on the work they have undertaken, whether it is strenuous or easy. The "County Badge" system is now under discussion. It has an obviously sound appeal in that it demands from the candidate for a badge some project planned and executed by himself the doing or making of which demands initiative, persistence and precision. But it all seems a little out of touch with reality, in the sense that it takes no account of existing institutions such as the Boy Scouts, and will obviously need a perfectly new system of administration. This is to-day a real criticism, in the sense that we have only too many organisers already dealing with a thousand other things, and that those individuals who could make the scheme a success are inevitably involved in other activities.

## CASTLE HOWARD DAMAGED

FULL details of the fire at Castle Howard have not been made known at the time of writing, but the damage to the interior is evidently very serious. It began at the east end of the great building, swept along the southern side, and apparently destroyed the central dome, together with the rest of the rooms in the south front—the principal rooms. These were filled with artistic treasures, though it is possible that a good many had been removed owing to the occupation of the building by Queen Margaret's School, Scarborough. But much was not removable, and is irreplaceable. Such was the immense collection of classical sculpture in the great corridors, Pellegrini's frescoes in the dome and much of the grandest baroque decoration in this country. One of the burnt rooms contained a unique collection of paintings by Canaletto, but many of the best paintings were in the picture gallery in the west wing which is stated to have been saved. A group of outstanding Zoffanys hung in Lord Carlisle's bedroom and may have been rescued. But although the two wings were saved, the centre of the Castle was the crowning glory of the huge, magnificent structure, begun for the third Earl of Carlisle in 1701 and still unfinished in 1738. It is a grim reflection that now Vanbrugh's first masterpiece has been ruined by the same cause that devastated his last—Seaton Delaval. But at least the problem of its upkeep has been settled, if not solved.

## THE LADY OF THE 'BUS

SOME little while back we were told that women porters were to take their places at our railway stations, and now come women conductors on the 'buses of central London—"conductress" would not be by any means so odious a word as are some female forms such as "undergraduate," but there is no necessity for it; we have long grown accustomed to addressing a lady in the chair as "Madam Chairman," and since they do the men's work it is to be hoped that these ladies will also assume the men's title. We have long ceased to be sur-





### THE SOUTH FRONT OF CASTLE HOWARD

The fire began in a bedroom on the east side (below the dome in this view), and swept westwards. The wings were saved, but the dome is said to have been destroyed. The Castle was begun from designs by Sir John Vanbrugh in 1701.

prised at the jobs that women can do and do well, and these new conductors will be as efficient as their predecessors, and as kind and helpful to their passengers. Whether they will be at first so talented in the matter of cheerful repartee, is not quite so sure, for that is a gift which comes gradually with experience. However, one of them who has already been at work for a year in Scotland has declared that she "can deal with the facetious ones herself," and doubtless her confidence is not misplaced. Facetiousness on the passenger's part may be a dangerous boomerang.

### WORD EVERLASTING

Always, and most to-day,  
The spirit's secret and substantial need  
Is faith in Beauty, Life's one faultless word,  
Word everlasting, so immense when spoken  
We cannot bear its wholeness, but in broken  
Fragments must receive it. Are we stirred  
By rhythm of branch movement, flight of bird,  
The transient colours gay  
Of flowers? Watch we the clouds that speed,  
That tower and fade, with wonder in our hearts?  
Does music's power spread  
A visioned world before us? Does the sweet  
Intricacy of words our sense entreat?  
Then by Beauty are we led.  
All these are parts  
Of Beauty, petals of Eternity,  
Whose bloom entire we could not bear to see.

Always, but now indeed,  
To be a shield against the ugliness and greed  
Of Life's detractors, we have need  
Of faith in Beauty. For that faith to-day  
Let us pray.

GLADYS ECHLIN.

### RE-MAPPING BRITAIN

THE British Association's project, as outlined by Mr. E. G. R. Taylor, for a National Atlas cannot but have excited the map-mind. He held out visions of maps from which we could tell not merely how the land lies, but such facts as whether the sky is apt to be sunny or cloudy, how the inhabitants spend their time, and the nature of the soil. There would be maps of the country as at various historical dates, showing, say, how it looked to the Domesday surveyors or Queen Elizabeth or William Cobbett as they made their journeys. And maps with which to confront the post-war re-planners who want to build a new town on the best farmland in the country, or where the wind will create a pall of smoke, or snow lies longer than elsewhere. It is the importance of clearly displaying this sort of information before any great effort of reconstruction and re-planning is undertaken that is the main object of the National Atlas proposal. "Our country is not a *tabula rasa*," remarks Mr. Taylor, "upon which new centres of population and industry can be stamped at will with consideration only of principles of spacing." Good as the existing maps are, they are about as well fitted to the needs of "national planning" as would be a school atlas of Africa to somebody lost in the Congo jungle. This is so obvious that it is exceedingly distressing to realise that the making of these great maps would cost money, money which is poured out to make engines of destruction. "Is not the will to a better peace," asks Mr. Taylor, "strong enough to provide the price of, say, three Spitfires so that a National Atlas can be laid on the desk of the Minister for Building?"

## A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

Rabbit Exterminators—Gypsies of the East—The Dog's Borstal

BY MAJOR C. S. JARVIS

SINCE writing some remarks in a recent issue on the control and extermination of wild rabbits I have discovered that in some localities it is quite unnecessary to enlist the aid of Government officials, as there exist public-spirited and most efficient organisations that carry out this work gratuitously. I saw two members of one of these organisations the other evening looking out of the window of a dilapidated saloon car that was drawn up outside a country inn. There were a lurcher and one of those varminty, long-legged spaniels that seem to possess far more intelligence than their more aristocratic cousins, and they were able to look out of the windows with ease as they were seated on a huge roll of twine netting and short hazel stakes that filled the bottom of the car. In the public bar the remaining members of this band of willing war helpers were drinking a pint before starting the night's work, and I recognised them as three gypsies from a permanent encampment some thirty miles away.

A thing that has always puzzled me up till now is what happens to rabbits in mid-October to account for their sudden disappearance from their summer haunts; or, to misquote an old music-hall ditty, "Where do rabbits go in the autumn time?" I know of a large upland field adjoining a Forest warren where, on any September evening, there appear to be more bobbing white scuts than grass, and I also know of a park belonging to a vacant mansion that literally gets up and runs away. With the coming of autumn these rabbits disappear in a miraculous fashion in twenty-four hours, and when one makes pertinent enquiries locally one hears a variety of explanations, such as foxes, disease, and the attraction of acorns in the woods, none of which sounds very convincing. The reason seems to be connected in some way with the car full of nets and the two dogs that are no doubt trained to run silently by night, but no one ever hints at such an explanation. The truth of the matter is that the rabbit has a most disintegrating effect on rural morals, and employees, who will religiously respect and preserve the pheasants, partridges and other game on the land on which they work, will in some silent, unexplained fashion allow the rabbits to disappear from under their very noses and know nothing whatsoever about it.

As the rabbit is at all times a pest, and during war a great menace to our food supplies, and as the local gypsies carry out their work most efficiently, putting the results on the market—usually a distant and not a local one—nobody is going to feel very much upset about it. The only exceptions are the farmer who has hoped to benefit from rabbit sales, and the landowner who might have organised a rabbit shoot for his friends if the farmer had not got in first.

\* \* \*

IN "Arabia Deserta" G. M. Doughty refers frequently to a mysterious race of nomads known as the Solubba or Nawahs, and, although Doughty writes somewhat peevishly of the Beduin Arab and his narrow fanaticism, he displays a sympathetic fellow-feeling for the Solubba and their broader outlook on life, for the Solubba is neither an Arab nor a true Mahomedan—except outwardly.

These very peculiar people with their marked nomadic habits are the gypsies of Arabia and are undoubtedly of the same stock as our own and other European gypsies, for, although the best part of a thousand years must have elapsed since they parted company on their westward migration from northern India—the Solubba going south to Arabia and the main body of Romanies wandering into the Balkans—the private language they speak among themselves to-day is basically the same. This similarity is not confined to speech only, for the Solubba is a tinker and carries out repairs of pots and pans in the Beduin encampments; the men play the zither and the one-stringed fiddle, and their music is not Arabian with its half-tones; the women dance professionally, and tell fortunes when their palms are crossed with silver; poultry disappear mysteriously from Arab villages when the Solubba pitch their tents near by; and in every encampment are several dogs of the lurcher or greyhound type that are used for hunting gazelles and desert hares.

The most marked common characteristic is their uncanny veterinary skill, combined with horse, donkey and camel coping. They buy up aged and decrepid animals in one area, and a month later sell them elsewhere as perfectly sound in wind and limb with cleverly filed teeth. The trouble is that this remarkable cure is entirely ephemeral, and by the time the Solubba have folded their tents and stolen away the animal's condition is as bad, if not worse, than it was originally. For this and many other reasons the Solubba are not very popular in the East, and, as it is a Mahomedan habit to blame the infidel for all things, he has to take responsibility for the Solubba also, who, the Arabs say, are descended from Richard's Crusaders.

Very little is known of the Solubba and their past, for they are a suspicious, secretive people. My own attempts to find out something of their origin and tribal lore were singularly unsuccessful, for, as a man connected with that blundering, interfering body of men, the police, I was suspect from the start. An innocent enquiry as to their country of origin would be taken to be a leading question as to their whereabouts the week before last, framed with a view to fixing their guilt over a shady camel deal or a stolen donkey, and the whole encampment would become mute and evasive, and tent-flaps would be pulled down in my face.

\* \* \*

RECENTLY some friends of mine came home from India on retirement, bringing with them two very important and loved members of the family, a bull terrier dog and bitch, who had shared their exile abroad. These two, having served their six months' period of quarantine, were sent off to their new home in the west of England, and at

first had a perfectly glorious time, enjoying their new and unaccustomed freedom and hunting rabbits all day in an adjoining wood. In India the British dog is either confined to barracks or cantonments, or, if stationed in the hills or jungle, is kept closely on the lead or chain for fear of prowling leopards. Such a thing as unrestricted hunting in field and hedgerow is denied to him, and, moreover, that delightful furry animal with the delicious smell—the rabbit—does not exist.

A dog and bitch hunting party, however, is a bad combination, for the average bitch is not such a creature of rigid routine as the male of the species. The dog is usually quite content to hunt the same rabbit in the same patch of gorse every morning of his life, and it never occurs to him that there is any hint of sameness and boredom about the proceeding; but the bitch has a more enquiring and exploring mind, and sooner or later it is a case of "the woman tempted me." This is what happened with the pair of bull terriers, and one unhappy day they were charged with, and found guilty of, the worst crime a dog can commit—sheep-worrying.

The matter was settled out of court by the payment of damages, which amounted to some £70, but there was the future to consider and the probability that the hunting couple would run up a bill for double the amount the next time they got loose together. Also, farmers are not always content with payment of actual damages, and on the second

occasion usually demand the death penalty. It seemed there were two possibilities: removal to a town or suburb where flocks do not exist, or the lethal chamber; and then the bull terriers' owner heard of a school of correction, or canine Borstal institution, where dogs are cured of their sheep-worrying habits.

The headmaster at this school is a savage old ram with a Rowland Ward head, who suffers from a permanent dog hate, and the cure consists of a series of *seances* in an enclosed space where the dog is butted from pillar to post until every bone in his body aches and he has not a spot on which he can sit down. *Extremis malis extrema remedia*, and in this case the remedy was so effective that the sight of a savage and dreaded sheep in the far distance is sufficient to send the pair scurrying for safety with their tails between their legs. In fact, it is alleged that they refuse their meals if there should happen to be a scrap of mutton or lamb among the pieces on the dog plate.

IN a note which appeared in this column on September 7th I referred to a raid by the Dorset police on a small private hotel at Lulworth Cove. I have now received information which justifies my criticism of the activities of the police being withdrawn, and therefore do not hesitate to offer my apologies to the Dorset County Constabulary for any injustice I may have done them unwittingly.

## HERRINGS—IN PEACE AND WAR

By CAPTAIN FRANK H. SHAW

*War has drained the fishing fleets of ships and men—for mine-sweeping, the Navy, and by casualties. But the old men and boys carry on, and in some villages fishing is a "reserved occupation." Good prices are not grudged to men who risk their lives for every catch, however shabbily they may have been treated in peace-time. But the retail prices of fish are such that some degree of control has become necessary, if only in justice to the men away on active service. The following article gives a picture of the herring fleets to-day and yesterday at the time when they are busiest.*

ALL down the stark east coast the Hunter's Moon is believed to favour the herring-fisher; and but for the war the drift-net men would be working double tides just now. From Yarmouth and Lowestoft the slim, handy drifters would be trudging forth on the evening tide, returning in the morning, almost bursting

with the finny reward of their strenuous labours.

Two years ago, with peace brooding, I accompanied the Lowestoft men to sea, to watch their fashion of supplying the national market with some of the most delicious—albeit the cheapest—fish it sells.

I had worked with these men in a forgotten war, and had never ceased to admire their

courage, resourcefulness and dogged determination. I said to the skipper of my chosen drifter:

"It's too fine a night; I want to see 'weather.'"

"You come along; we'll show ye weather!" grinned he. It was a serene night: the Hunter's Moon was at its fullest; the sea beyond the harbour mouth showed hardly a catspaw. We slipped to sea with a minimum of fuss. In an hour we were shipping it green over both rails, and rolling and pitching like an uncoiled solar plexus. We got weather, sure enough; but we also got fish—a shipload of it: for rough weather under a Hunter's Moon is the herring-fisher's delight. Ironically enough, because of the glut of fish, our catch had to be jettisoned—there was too much even to be used as manure!

From the moment of streaming the miles of drift-net, banking fires and setting the after sail to allow the ship to drift slowly downwind, to the time, six hours later, when the tests showed the time had come to make the haul, the little ship jolted and pitched and tied overhand knots in itself. Ease is a thing unknown to the herring-fisher. The countless crans of loot are won at an arduous price. The North Sea men take hard-lying philosophically: it is their way of winning an insufficient wage. Even when the bulging catch is thrown overside as so much waste, they do not repine—it means that many comrades are making their winter's keep. It's all a matter of luck. Hardship is their messmate—so familiar as to merit no remark.

I spent many such nights with them. The sea held no terrors; all was straightforward work: handling the heavy, wet nets, both empty and full; shaking the glittering catch down into the hold, tending helm and sail. The countless thousands of Scottish fisher lasses who followed the herring shoals down the coast from Fraserburgh to Land's End—and there's a maritime miracle for you!—must be kept supplied with finny trophies for their busy knives. Exactly how many thousand barrels filled and headed per season rewarded the girls' labours I dare not estimate. Russia needed salt herring to feed her millions, Germany too. The morning tide saw the busy fleet heading portwards; the scant time ashore was spent in sleep or readying the nets for yet another voyage. Only on Saturday night was rest ashore possible; for the Presbyterian lasses refused Sabbath work.

A herring is the most delicious fish spawned by the sea, and its food content is enormous. Charge a shilling apiece and *gourmets* would gloat over their flavour: at two a penny the epicurean palate ignores them. Cooked as drifter cooks know how, they are purely Lucullan: fresh from the net to the frying-pan, and accompanied by the mustard-and-vinegar sauce that is as much a decoration to the cuddy table as the ever-steaming tea-kettle that adorns the stove.

Each haul was a gamble. Maybe dog-fish



H. D. Keilor

"LIVES O' MEN"

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had ripped the slender nets to thread, allowing the catch to escape. Maybe a distant ship—and the nets are streamed for miles of sea—had torn the drifts away. Or maybe the weight of fish alone burst the meshes. When the haul was made, and the silvery cascade poured into the gaping fish-hold, one saw what an illimitable harvest old Mother Sea vouchsafed to such as dared her dangers. Yet the fish-markets of Britain engorged practically all the lavish catches.

During the night-drifts we yarned, of even sterner days, when these men, or their kin, sailed with me, still in their little ships, questing for enemy mines, hunting submarines, guarding booms, tending big ships, no matter what the weather was: performing the countless duties of the Mosquito Fleet. Little handy ships, with a six-pounder gun in the bows, and a few depth-charges aft, manned in the main by fishermen, they served invaluable through the war years of 1914-18. "Tis wi' U-boats as wi' fish!" was their say-so. Once you got the hang of under-sea movements, you took steps; and those steps were miraculously successful. The man-made horrors with which their sea was gorged held no terrors for them.

Their recreation was lifeboating. No stress of weather ever daunted them from faring out into that Devil's Playground of the wintry North Sea to rieve some hapless souls from a foundering wreck.

Thus much for peace. I visited them again in war. A vast change had come over the port. You will remember that when the Hun played a new frightfulness on humanity and deposited magnetic mines in all the fairways, the Admiralty issued an immediate call for fishermen volunteers to deal with the secret weapon. Ten thousand coastwise men volunteered in a breath. What fiendish frightfulness the new mines held mattered nothing: shipmates, fellows of the sea, were imperilled; and, as when the lifeboat maroons roared above, so now: the fishermen went to the rescue.

True, the younger men were enrolled at



#### A HUNTER'S MOON IS THE HERRING FISHER'S DELIGHT

the outbreak of war, most of them being Naval Reservists. These men were trained in peace for service in war—and little enough training they needed, for the sea trains men to war from their cradle. But the fishing industry must needs be maintained—if Hitler's vaunted blockade were to be scotched; and so the remaining men, and the remaining ships, worked double tides, enduring added hazards.

Risk notwithstanding, fish poured into the markets. The elder men went back to sea from well earned retirement, and worked harder than in their glowing youth.

But the Hun menace required tools for its destruction. Until the de-Gaussing device was fitted, every metal ship was under sentence of death. What better craft to cope with live murder, then, than these drifters and trawlers of the raw east coast, wooden ships manned by iron men? Hundreds of trawlers and drifters were requisitioned for immediate service; being kept seaworthy, they were immediately available. Their crews sacrificed the chance of fat catches to serve England for a Navy seaman's pay, plus an extra shilling or so a day as "danger-money"; and they hunted the magnetic mine as eagerly as ever they'd quested for the most epicurean fish.

They hurriedly installed light guns in their bows, to explode such mines as were swept up, and they fared out into the Unknown as casually as if running to the Dogger for a night's herring haul. With what results we know—the seas were made safe for British keels, although the toll taken of these hardy warriors was heavy beyond belief.

So that this Hunter's Moon revealed a change. The herring harvest was almost neglected. Only old men and old ships remained to gather it. But these veterans functioned tirelessly, since rich herring are still a vital food. The chattering, ever-knitting fisher lasses were no longer by their barrels—export trade in salt herring was ended, for the duration of the war. The once clamorous quays were strangely silent and lonely. The morning tides brought in only stragglers—vigorous, valiant stragglers true; but the pier-master had no need to yell himself hoarse to sort the hurrying keels into the order he desired. The fish was priceless now; no talk of jettisoning even a meagre catch. But the groaning crans were limited; and the fish themselves, I thought, were lean and unsatisfying, as if all the murder let loose in their feeding grounds had dismayed them.

Hardly a ship of all that came in but carried some trace of enemy spite—in riddled funnel or pierced bulwarks, or in the memories of survivors. Make no mistake—you get the fish, but it is won at an incalculable price. This incoming remnant of a fleet had been three times attacked from the air during this one moonlit night. Of those that started out, ten per cent. failed to return. There was the glittering fish; but under a dingy ensign aft was the bullet-riddled body of this staunch hero or that.

"I'd like to go out with you to-night—if you're going," I said to my informant.

"We be goin' all right, all right," he said grimly. "Twill take more'n a dozen Hitlers to stop us givin' England her fish!"



H. D. Keilor

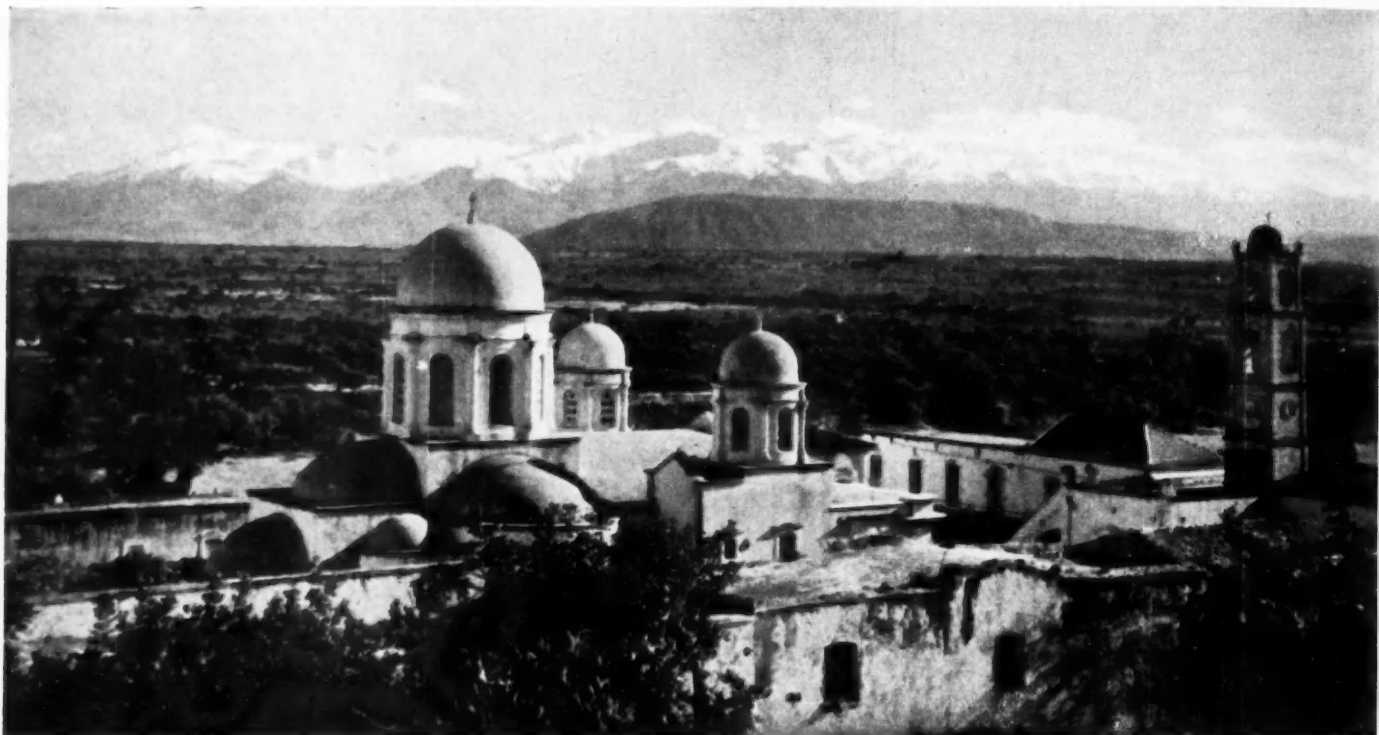
SCOTTISH FISHER LASSES WHO FOLLOW THE HERRING SHOALS

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# A TRAVELLER IN CRETE

By THE HON. EDWARD GATHORNE-HARDY



THE MONASTERY OF AGIA TRIADH, WITH THE WHITE MOUNTAINS IN THE DISTANCE

[It was officially announced on November 4th that British troops had landed in Crete.]

**M**OST people who visited Crete before the war usually had time only to land at Candia, to make a short visit to the ruins of Gnosso, and perhaps to see the museum too. The archaeological remains of Crete are of course of great interest and importance, but the real point of the island to the unlearned traveller is the magnificent scenery and wild life. If you come to Canea from the Piræus (and I think this is the best town from which to begin a tour of Crete), long before the ship reaches Canea you will see the superb snow-covered range of the White Mountains, and you will realise that Crete is essentially a mountainous island.

There are three main groups of mountains: the White Mountains in the west, Mount Ida (Psiloriti) in the centre, and the Lasithi Mountains in the east. Eastward of Lasithi are the Kavousi Mountains, which are lower than the others, but of great botanical interest. The White Mountains lie behind Canea, and are much the biggest group in the island, about



MOUNT IDA AT DAWN, FROM THE WEST



eighteen miles long and twelve miles across. The highest peak is said to be about six feet lower than Mount Ida, which is the highest mountain in the island—somewhere about 8,500ft. But while Mount Ida has only one peak, there must be half a dozen peaks in the White Mountains over 8,000ft., and many more reaching over 7,000ft.

At each end of the White Mountains is one of those extraordinary upland plains which are such a feature of Cretan mountain geography. They are found in each of the three main mountain massifs. These plains are quite flat, and completely surrounded by mountains, so that there appears to be no outlet for the melting snow (with which they are covered in the winter months) and the rain to flow away. One would expect them to be large mountain lakes, but the limestone of which the mountains are mainly composed is so porous that the water soaks away quickly, appearing lower down as springs.

There are several tremendous gorges in the precipitous south side of the White Mountains: the Imbros Gorge south of the Askiphi Plain, the Samaria south of the Omalo, the Aradena, and the Tripiti, these last two very inaccessible. The deepest is the Samaria.

Gorge: it is only a few feet wide in the narrowest part, with a torrent rushing through and cliffs nearly 2,000ft. high. These gorges are extremely interesting to botanists; they contain many of the hundred and thirty plants which are peculiar to Crete—the beautiful shrubby flax, *Linum arboreum*, peonies, cyclamen, campanulas, *onosmas*, *ranunculus*, *dianthus*, many of them quite inaccessible on the perpendicular cliffs.

The mountains above the Samaria Gorge are the last remaining home of the Cretan wild goat. It used to be found all over the White Mountains, but it has been so determinedly hunted that it is now almost extinct, and is protected by law. It is to be hoped that it will begin to increase again.

The Imbros Gorge is not so spectacular as the Samaria Gorge, but it has the advantage that by hiring a motor it can be seen in one day's excursion from Canea. When I was last there the road to Sphakia reached about three miles beyond the Askipho Plain; it is about three hours' walk through the Imbros Gorge, and then up to the end of the road, where you can pick up the car again.

About three hours' walk east from the end of the Imbros Gorge is the castle of Frankokasteli. This is a fine old Venetian castle, and it is supposed to be haunted. At the beginning of the last century there was a fierce battle there between the Cretan mountaineers, led by Hadji Michali, and a Turkish force, in which the Cretans were defeated. At dawn at some seasons of the year a file of the massacred Cretans



IMBROS GORGE

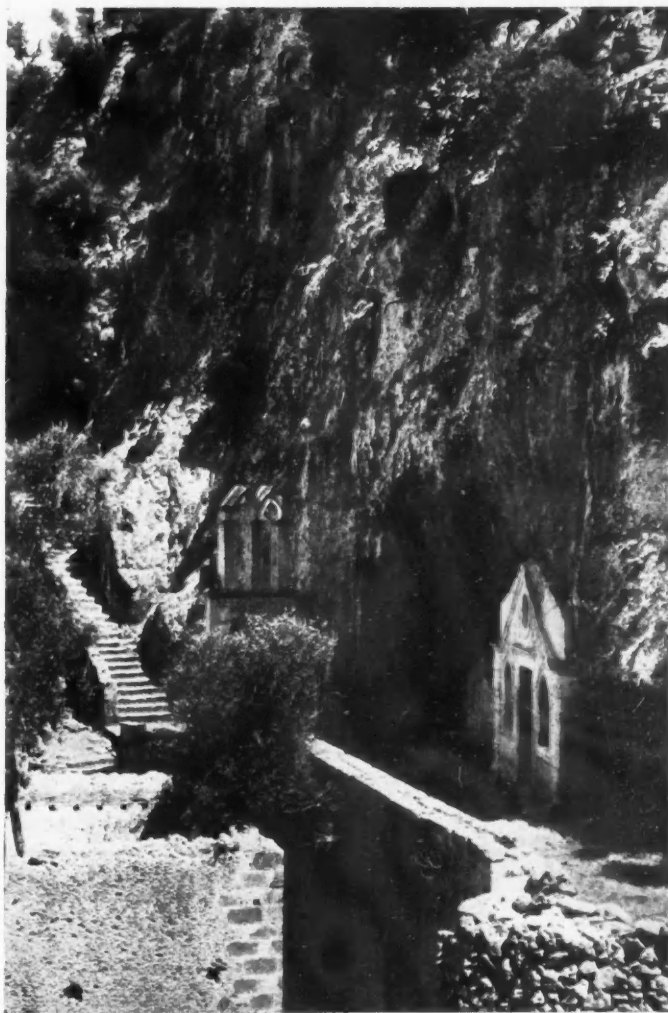
are said to pass in front of the castle. These figures are known as *Drosuliti* or "Dew-men." I spent a night in the old windmill near the castle and got up before dawn, but I was not surprised to see nothing. However, an old Cretan in the village of Kapsodasos near by described to me in an impressive voice how he had seen a procession of soldiers carrying lances over their shoulders one morning in early May in 1928.

In normal times a lot of Crete can be seen by using motor cars and buses, but you will see more and get to know the people better if you are prepared to sleep in the open air occasionally, or accept the hospitality of the inhabitants. As there is no rain from the end of April till September, a tent is not necessary, and all you will need is some sort of mattress (an inflatable mattress is very convenient) and a sleeping-bag. With that you can go anywhere. It is always possible to find somewhere to sleep—in the local café, for instance—and, so far as food is concerned, the hospitality of the Cretans is proverbial, and sometimes overpowering. I remember particularly one meal I had in the village of Bouta, in the west of the island, with the schoolmaster with whom I was staying—rice and lemon soup, fried liver, cold lamb, sheep's head, potatoes, salad, cheese-cakes, sheep's cheese with honey, and lashings of wine and spirits. It was a little too much at eleven o'clock in the morning, with a five hours' walk ahead.

Sometimes you can stay in a monastery. The monks seem to have had the knack of choosing the most beautiful sites for their settlements. The monastery of Preveli is in a lovely and remote position overlooking the sea on the south coast, south of the town of Retimo. Captain Spratt, author of the entertaining "Travels in Crete," published in 1865, says: "The Monastery of Preveli is situated in one of the most retired and picturesque vales in Crete; for crags of various forms, venerable and grey, beetle over gentle swelling slopes, olive-groved glades, and open fields and vineyards in such proximity that a stranger's



THE MONASTERY OF GOUBERNETO



THE MONASTERY OF AGIA IOANNIS IN THE AKROTERI



first impression on viewing it is to pronounce it the paradise of Crete, and one of the most happily chosen spots for a retreat from the cares and responsibilities of life."

There is no question of being asked to pay anything in the monastery, and it would be impossible to have more tactful and charming hosts. I used to put in the alms-box the amount of money I should have spent in an inn.

Another monastery I stayed in was Guberneto, on the Akroteri Peninsula near Canea. On the way you pass the monastery of Agia Triadh, the Holy Trinity, and as the path climbs up the hill there is a superb view of the monastery, with the plain of Canea beyond, and the long snowy range of the White Mountains in the distance. Agia Triadh used to be one of the richest monasteries in Crete; but successive Governments have taken away most of its property, though it still makes a certain amount of wine and oil.

Guberneto is buried in the hills at the north end of the peninsula. It has a charming little courtyard planted with oranges and hibiscus, with the rather exotic-looking eighteenth-century façade of the church forming the east side. From the monastery a path leads down through a steep and narrow gorge to the sea, passing on the way the ruined monastery of Agia Ioannis, with a pretty little chapel in the cliff face. The walls of the gorge are covered with flowers: the shrubby pink,

Dianthus arboreus, is particularly fine here, with woody trunks more than three inches in diameter.

I visited Guberneto just before Easter at a time when many kinds of food are prohibited to the orthodox. Snails, however, are permissible, and the monks produced for me a magnificent pilaw of snails. It was one of the very rare really good dishes I ate in Greece, where the cooking on the whole is terrible. The resinated wine, to which many people object so much, I find very refreshing, but it is important that it should be extremely cold—iced if possible—and I think as a rule the white is safer than the red. The restaurants in the two chief towns of Crete, Canea and Candia, are pretty poor; the best food I found in the little town of Agia Nikolaos in eastern Crete, in the restaurant on the east side of the main square.

The map of Crete I bought before I went there (the War Office map dated 1905) says: "except in the neighbourhood of Canea and Candia, the roads are mere tracks." This is now completely inaccurate. There is a road the whole way along the north of the island from Kisamo Kasteli in the west, through Canea, Retimo, Candia, Agia Nikolaos, to Sitia in the east. (On my last visit there was still a short gap before Sitia, which had to be done on foot.) There are respectable hotels at Canea, Candia, and Agia Nikolaos, and clean

inns in the other towns. The dirt of Greece is largely a myth, in my experience; at any rate, I never came across any fleas or bugs, even in the hot months of July and August. There are also fair hotels at Palaiochoro (generally marked Selino Kasteli in the maps) in the extreme south-west, and at Gortyna.

There are plenty of roads leading from the main road all along the island, and almost always where there is a road there is a bus service. But often on the side roads the service is such that you have to spend the night at the terminus, and you cannot go and come back on the same day. However, if you do not mind a little discomfort, and have your mattress and blanket, it is always possible to find somewhere to eat and to sleep. It is, of course, much easier if you can speak a little modern Greek, but in almost every village there is someone who has been to America to seek his fortune and come back to Crete to live on the proceeds. It is astonishing in a remote mountain village to hear a ringing American accent welcoming you with "Hello, Johnny!"

Travelling about in this way is incredibly cheap; the most expensive hotels cost less than three shillings a day, and the more humble ones about twenty drachmas, normally less than a shilling. And the climate and scenery are as fine as any in Europe. What more can be wanted?

## ACORN LORE

LESS than a century and a half ago the farmers in some western counties valued acorns above apples. More recently acorns have been neglected, and references have usually been plaintive rather than appreciative. Tales of the poisoning of cattle and the discoloration of hens' eggs (when the layers have eaten acorns) have been hardy annuals, but these drawbacks were known centuries ago, as the following passage from *Holinshed* indicates, yet they did not blind our forebears to the real worth of acorns: the familiar proverb can be reversed, and that which is one creature's poison may be recognised as another's meat. Says *Holinshed*.

This tree bringeth forth also a profitable kind of mast, whereby such as dwell neere unto the aforesaid places doo cherish and bring up innumerable herds of swine. In time of plentie of this mast, our red and fallow deere will not let to participat thereof with our hogs, more than our nete: yea our common pultrie also if they may come unto them. But as this abundance doth proove verie pernicious unto the first, so these eggs which these latter doe bring forth (beside blacknesse in color and bitternesse of tast) have not seldome bene found to breed diverse diseases to such persons as have eaten of the same.

As to our "nete," it is now (as already indicated) notorious that an abundance of acorns is a danger to cattle, and especially to young cattle. Less than four years ago, for example, 400 oaks near Ambleside were condemned to be felled because of the damage done by their acorns to dairy cattle. (Fortunately reprieve came at the last minute.) On this occasion an authority stated that pigs derive profit from acorns because they chew them well, their saliva being thus enabled to turn the starch into sugar; but cattle swallow acorns whole, and acute indigestion—occasionally fatal—is the result. It is worthy of remark, however, that some cattle eat a modest picking of acorns without any ill effects: the writer's brother has a dairy herd of some thirty cows, and their milk yield always increases when the acorns (which they seek eagerly) are falling. Again, deer,

which are also ruminants and have incidentally been known to kill themselves with horse chestnuts, feast on acorns without any consequent disaster: indeed, after farmers had in most counties ceased to pay children 6d. to 1s. a bushel for gathering acorns (a practice which at once preserved young cattle from danger and provided food for the hogs in sties), the park-keepers of great estates continued in some places thus to pay for gathered acorns, which they doled out as extra deer-feed in the lean months of the New Year.

Both last autumn and this the Ministry of Agriculture has advised farmers to make arrangements with local schools so that acorns may be gathered, and thousands of children are now earning good pocket-money. The idea is admirable, but the Ministry may perhaps be unnecessarily cautious in advising that fattening pigs should receive only 2lb. to 3lb. of acorns a day. In German trials pigs have fattened well on a daily ration of 14½lb. of acorns, with 4½lb. of mangolds and 7 oz. of fish meal. The acorn-fed bacon was hard and of good flavour. However, caution is a virtue, and it would obviously be asking for trouble to give unlimited quantities of acorns to pigs in sties: the ration of "oak nuts" should be increased gradually.

Dried acorns compare well with locust beans in food value, and they are credited with half the feeding value of maize meal.

Although (as has been said) care should be exercised in the feeding of acorns to pigs which are not at liberty, and the inclusion of some such food as mangolds to offset the astringent quality of the acorns is necessary, yet swine which are ranging free seem to be able to consume vast quantities of acorns without ill effects. It will be recalled that pannage rights in Royal and other forests (they still obtain in the New Forest) were very highly prized in the past. The pannage season varied according to locality and century, but in many places Michaelmas to Martinmas (November 11th) was the time during which swine were permitted to range through woods closed to them during the rest of the year.

Evidence of the value of acorns as human food is conflicting. Pliny notes that in his day the chief wealth of some nations consisted of acorns, which were ground into meal for bread-making. And we are told elsewhere that the heroic Romans of old

... When fed with oaken mast  
The aged trees themselves in years surpass'd.

A final word—about the acorn as father of

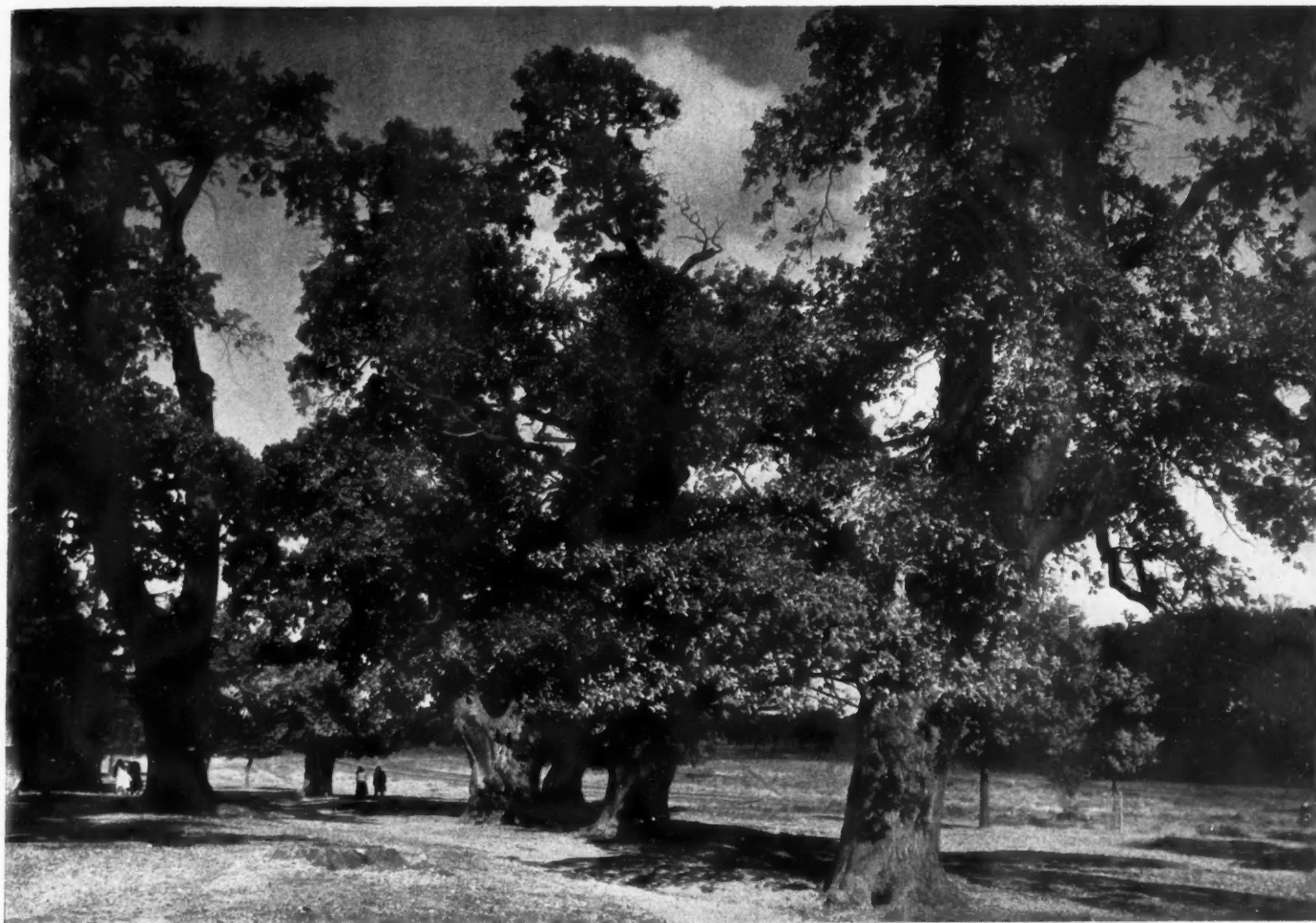
the oak. It has been reported that, in the New Forest, 20,000lb. of acorns are annually saved for planting purposes; acorns from the so-called Boscobel Oak were sent to the town of Royal Oak, Michigan, U.S.A., two years ago, and about the same time it was announced that members of the Royal English Forestry Society could have acorns from Sir George Courthope's famous oaks at Whiligh. But apart from those exceptions, one has read nothing of what may be called "pedigree acorns" being specially required or planted. Our forebears' appreciation of acorns above oaks was safe, however odd it now seems: is there not a danger that our preference for oaks, with the corresponding neglect of acorns, may lead to an improvident oblivion of the first and chief purpose of a tree's seed?

J. D. U. WARD.



OAKS BESIDE A SUSSEX HAMMER-POND





A GROUP OF VETERANS



*J. Dixon-Scott*

A TREE BENEATH WHICH ROBIN HOOD MAY HAVE PASSED. The Queen Oak, Sherwood Forest

*Copyright*

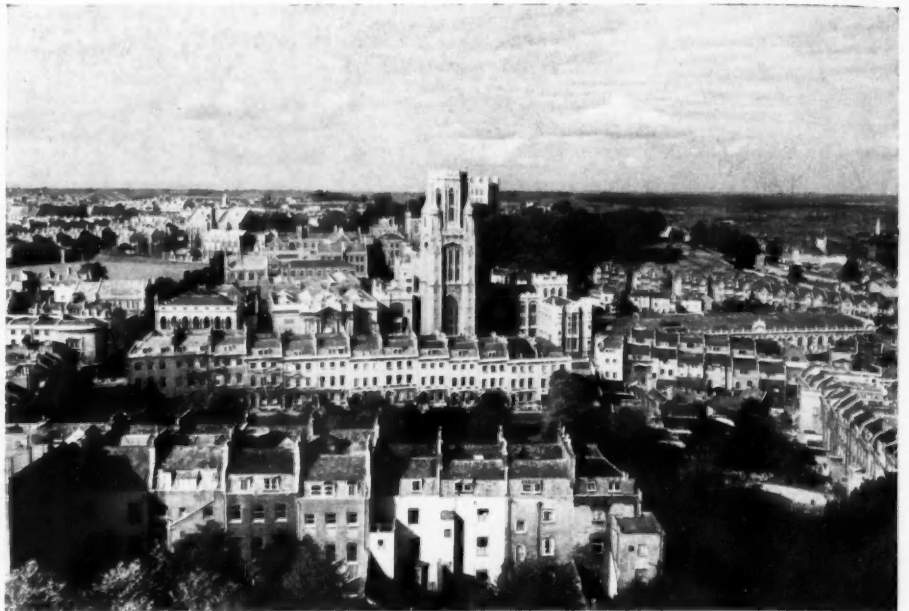
# BRISTOL— QUEEN OF THE WEST

*The Architecture of its Streets, Squares  
and Houses*

## II.—THE NEW TOWN AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLIFTON

### 1.—THE TOWERS OF THE UNIVERSITY NOW DOMINATE THE GEORGIAN QUARTER OF BRISTOL

In the foreground is seen Berkeley Square, begun in 1786, and Great Charlotte Street (extreme right)



IT is not often that a great commercial city is able to boast a spa. In eighteenth-century England pleasure and industry were usually kept well apart; the fashionable and the vulgar lived, moved and died as far as possible in different worlds. Off-hand it is difficult to think of any other English town (outside London, of course) where the two widely separated halves in the Georgian social order impinged on each other as they did at Bristol. Not that they mixed where they met, though a few wealthy sugar planters, it is true, succeeded in gaining admission from the world of commerce to the *beau monde*. This unusual conjunction of incompatibles became possible at Bristol be-

cause of its geographical position. Just outside the narrow, densely populated streets of the old city rose the wooded heights of Clifton, with its bracing air and almost sensationally dramatic scenery; moreover, at the foot of the romantic cliffs, at the entrance to the gorge, there was discovered that infallible magnet of Georgian society, a medicinal spring. It was some time, however, before the Hotwells attracted visitors for any lengthy stay, most of them, like Pope, being content to make no more than an excursion from Bath. But in time Bristol came to enjoy a season; the city, already bursting its mediæval bounds, was developing northward and westward; and eventually, though not before the end

of the century, the "village" of Clifton began to blossom out into an established resort of fashion. Between the two urges—the desire of the wealthier Bristol citizens to live outside the old city and the need to cater for the growing influx of visitors—what may be called "the New Town" came into being. One might compare it with the New Town of Edinburgh, which was being developed about the same time, though there the citizens descended from their rock to the leveller ground beyond the Nor' Loch, whereas Bristol in pushing outwards pushed upwards. Both in its lay-out and architectural quality the Edinburgh New Town is superior to that of Bristol, which, owing to economic



2.—REDLAND GREEN CHAPEL, BY THE BRISTOL ARCHITECT, JOHN STRACHAN (1743)





3.—LOOKING DOWN GREAT CHARLOTTE STREET. TYPICAL LATE GEORGIAN HOUSES



4.—ROYAL YORK CRESCENT, CLIFTON. BEGUN IN 1791 BUT NOT COMPLETED UNTIL 1818





(Left) 5.—DOWRY HOUSE, DOWRY SQUARE. Circa 1730



(Above) 6.—THE COLONNADE NEAR THE HOT WELL (1786)

and other reasons suffered many setbacks and never attained to the degree of stateliness and coherence that its promoters visualised. None the less, the north-western suburb is a remarkable example of eighteenth-century town planning, and it remains for the most part homogeneous in spite of the incongruity of the University's "Late Perpendicular" towers which now dominate this quarter (Fig. 1).

Up to the end of the seventeenth century the city for the most part was confined to the area within its mediæval walls. There was, however, a suburb north of the Frome and running up St. Michael's Hill; this is shown in Hoefnagle's plan of 1581, but in the plan which Millard made ninety years later it does not appear to have grown appreciably. As we saw last week, the first step in the development of the city in accordance with Renaissance ideals of town planning was taken in 1700, when the lay-out of Queen Square was begun. But, though outside the mediæval wall, this new quarter was still within the peninsula formed by the confluence of the rivers. In the subsequent stages development was almost wholly concentrated on the Gloucestershire side beyond the Frome, first at the foot, and then up the steep slopes of the hills.

In College Green, around the Cathedral, there already existed a nucleus, or rather a point of departure, for what was to become the main sector of the new town. But there were two other areas of development, which may be considered first—one, north-east of the old town, on the slopes of Kingsdown; the other away to the west, close to the Hot Well beside the Avon. In the former district the first square to be laid out was St. James's, the houses of which, built between 1707 and 1716, show brick fronts with eaves, cornices and some interesting examples of shell hoods and wood fanlights to the doorways. Development was slow in this region. The adjoining Brunswick Square was not begun until 1769, while the larger Portland Square, just beyond, with its stone-fronted terraces, dates only from the end of the century.

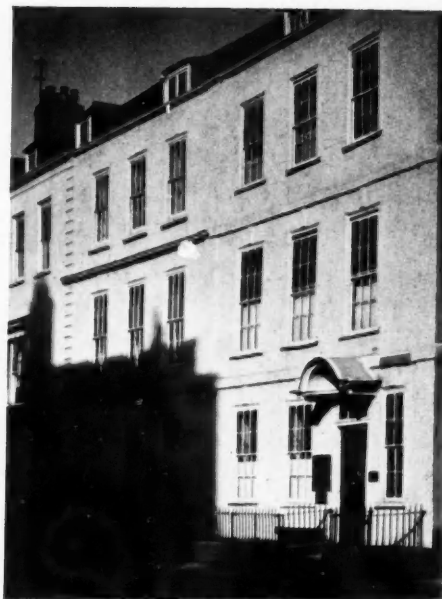
(Left) 8.—WINDSOR TERRACE, CLIFTON. Circa 1792

(Right) 9.—THE CLIFTON CLUB IN THE MALL, CLIFTON



When Pope visited the Bristol Hot Well in 1739 he wrote to Martha Blount: "There is no living at the Wells without more conveniences in the winter." Bristol itself he found "very unpleasant, and no civilised company in it. . . . The streets are as crowded as London; but the best image I can give you of it is, 'tis as if Wapping and Southwark were ten times as big, or all their people ran into London." None the less, as another passage in one of his letters shows, there were already lodging-houses for visitors springing up in the neighbourhood of the Hot Well. As for its situation, he could not fail to be pleased by scenery so unusual in England, and his description of it is that of a connoisseur confronted with a Salvator landscape. The lodging-houses he refers to were probably those in Dowry Square, which had begun to be laid out twelve years before. Fig. 5 shows Dowry House in this square, very typical of the earlier Georgian architecture of Bristol, with its brick front, the grotesque heads over the windows, and the hood and wood fanlight to its doorway. Dowry Square is now a pleasant backwater of Bristol, though fallen from its fashionable estate. Leading out of it are Chapel Row and Dowry Parade, the latter a row of houses with delicate iron balconies and metal fanlights. The "Long Rooms" here were the scenes of fashionable entertainments and

dances, and towards the end of the century the amenities of the Pump Room were improved by the erection of a covered promenade



7.—HOUSES IN ORCHARD STREET. Circa 1716. A photograph taken by moonlight



—the Colonnade—which still survives (Fig. 6). That was in 1786, but soon afterwards, owing to the war with France and the extortionate prices asked by a new proprietor, the popularity of the Well declined.

The Hot Well was more than a mile and a half west of Bristol, and the development in its vicinity was at first an isolated one. The spearhead of the main advance, which was taking place in the meantime, was from College Green up the hill north-westward in the direction of Clifton. An early, though restricted, anticipation of the future trend was the laying out of Orchard Street, north-east of College Green, begun about 1716 (Fig. 7). The brick houses of this street and the adjoining square are charming examples of Early Georgian work, with interesting and varied doorways and the characteristic gro-tesques as "keystones" to their windows. Several of them, too, have fine staircases and panelling. In College Green itself there are two good examples of mid-Georgian fronts in freestone, but their lower portions are now shops. The same applies to many of the houses of Park Street, which goes up the hill from College Green and reminds one of Milsom Street, Bath. The houses, all stone-fronted, rise uniformly in steps, the end of the street now terminating in Sir George Oakley's great tower of the University. Park Street was begun in 1761, and in the next decade or two the streets leading off its west side were taken in hand—Great George Street, which contains the interesting Pinney house now opened as a museum and illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE a year ago; Great Charlotte Street (Fig. 3) and Berkeley Square (seen in the foreground of Fig. 1). The two latter were begun in 1786, though not finished for many years afterwards. Here again the steepness of the terrain necessitated the stepping up of each successive house. They are nearly all of a uniform pattern, with a rusticated ground storey and a thin pilaster separating each from its neighbour. This design was almost a stock one, and may be seen also in Clifton, for instance in Harley Place (Fig. 12) and the West Mall (Fig. 10). Many of these houses have pretty trellised balconies.

From Park Street you go on up Berkeley Place, and at the top of the hill you are in Clifton. Up to the middle of the eighteenth century there was only a handful of smart houses in the village, and of these Church House, dated 1711, and its neighbour, Clifton Hill House, designed by Isaac Ware, are the most interesting. But about 1790 a positive building mania broke out, which affected Clifton as well as the Park Street area. Wyatt made a design for a gigantic terrace in Tyn-dall's Park (now the site of the University), but this project came to nothing. At Clifton, however, on the edge of the cliff, work was started on Cornwallis Crescent and Royal York Crescent (Fig. 4)—two schemes almost as ambitious. They were not half built when the financial crisis of 1793 occurred, to the discomfiture of the shareholders and the ruin of numerous firms of speculative builders, including that of Lockier, McAulay and Co. the largest of them. Not only these two crescents, but most of the other new developments both in Clifton and the other new areas, were left in a forlorn state of incompleteness, and as late as 1807 the mournful spectacle of "the silent and falling" houses was commented on by a contemporary writer. Eventually, however, the tide turned. The last gaps in Royal York Crescent were filled about 1818, in Cornwallis Crescent not until 1824.

As might be expected, Clifton bears evidence of this disastrous slump in skimmed finishing and ill-concealed modifications of plans. In spite of these defects, there is a great deal of interesting late Georgian and Regency work, which is for the most part later than what you find at Bath but earlier than the main development of Cheltenham,



10.—IN WEST MALL, CLIFTON



11.—INTERIOR OF ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, BRISTOL, RE-BUILT IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY GOTHIC BY JAMES BRIDGES



12.—STONE FRONTS AND REGENCY BALCONIES IN HARLEY PLACE, CLIFTON



the two resorts with which Clifton is most frequently and naturally compared. One of the earlier schemes—Windsor Terrace—is also one of the more elaborate, treated with a large order of Corinthian pilasters (Fig. 8). Its promoter, one Watts, went bankrupt after being obliged to sink the whole of his capital in securing the foundations of the house at the end of the terrace overlooking the Avon. Another architecturally elaborated, though later design, is that of the Clifton Club in the Mall, with its heavy attic and pediment imposed on an Ionic order standing on a massive rusticated podium (Fig. 9). In Clifton Park and Worcester Terrace there is some excellent Regency work with refined Greek detail, while the expiring tradition received

its final tribute in the Victoria Rooms, with its great Corinthian portico, designed by Charles Dyer.

Most of this domestic work has remained anonymous: the Bristol contractors seem for the most part to have designed what they built. Only for churches and public buildings are the names of architects easily discoverable; the best account of them is to be found in Mr. C. F. W. Dering's excellent book, "The Eighteenth-century Architecture of Bristol." Among the principal local men were John Strachan, William Halfpenny and the Patys (of whom there were at least four); James Bridges, the architect of Bristol Bridge and of St. Nicholas Church (Fig. 11), re-built in 1768 in an eighteenth-century version of

Somerset "Perpendicular"; James Allen, the architect of St. Thomas's Church (1793); and G. S. Pope, to whom are due the Hydro Hotel in College Place and the neo-Greek church of St. Mary-on-the-Quay. John Strachan was responsible for the charming little Redland Green chapel, with its pilastered façade and cupola (Fig. 2). It was built at the expense of John Cossins, for whom Strachan had previously designed Redland Court, and it was intended for the use of his own and neighbouring families, living in what was then a little colony in the open country. Although Bristol has now spread out as far as this, Chapel and Court still have a pleasant tree-shaded setting opening on to the Green.

ARTHUR OSWALD.

## NOBLE FURNITURE

THE MARQUESS OF BATH'S AND DR. LINDLEY SCOTT'S WORKS OF ART AT SOTHEBY'S

THE autumn salerooms open impressively at Messrs. Sotheby's, with furniture, porcelain and some chinoiserie from the Marquess of Bath's London house on the west side of Grosvenor Square, and the late Dr. Lindley Scott, who lived at Wilbraham House, in a turning off Sloane Street.

The lots from Lord Bath's house comprise some important French furniture, including a beautiful Louis XV marquetry cabinet à ouvrage inlaid with architectural subjects on the top, tray, and tambour slide; and pieces stamped by some of the most famous *ébénistes*, including Riesener, Montigny, and Couturier. But perhaps the outstanding feature are two superb Chippendale period mirrors.

One, in the fullest rococo taste (Lot 87), was made for Cobham, the Kentish seat of Lord Darnley. It is of the kind designed to hang between windows, and is 8ft. 8ins. high over all and 4ft. 1in. broad. The central mirror, round which the whole fantastic composition is elaborated, is an oval something over two feet high; around it the



ROCOCO MIRROR, 8FT. HIGH, IN THE CHIPPENDALE STYLE. From the Marquess of Bath; formerly at Cobham



AN OVERMANTEL MIRROR IN THE CHINESE TASTE

carved and gilt framework, enclosing further glazed areas, consists of the most extravagant scrolling carved with acorns and oak leaves, the two sides symmetrical but not repetitive, and developing the theme of "The Chase"; below is an exquisite group of dead game, a pointer, and a fowling-piece from the adjacent *rocaille* of which issue three branches for candles; above, a figure of Diana holding a hunting-horn sits on a quiver of arrows, and is flanked by two emaciated but vigorously flapping birds; crowning all is a riotous bouquet of flowers issuing from a satyr's mask. It is a masterpiece of the rococo style, both in execution and invention, which recalls some of the designs of Lock and Copeland, those craftsmen of genius whom Chippendale for a time employed for the more elaborate of his published designs.

The other mirror (Lot 81), in the Chinese taste for an overmantel, is 5ft. 9ins. high and 5ft. wide, and has none of the superb vitality of the foregoing, but is delicately adapted for the display of china figures both in the canopied gallery which forms the centre and on the little platforms freely introduced among the scrollwork. It probably dates from the 1760s, whereas the rococo mirror may be a decade earlier.

Among the other lots in Lord Bath's sale may be mentioned a set of twelve late Sheraton painted beechwood dining-room chairs (Lot 60) and various English and Continental porcelain figures.

Dr. Lindley Scott collected English furniture of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and had several fine high-backed walnut chairs of circa 1680 (Lots 116 and 118), Queen Anne walnut chairs (Lots 126, 130 and 131), and a group of first-rate mahogany furniture, including George II and Chippendale chairs, and an exceptionally fine tripod reading-table (Lot 162), the shaft and tripod carved with scale ornament and the feet ending in scrolls. *Petit-point* cushions, a handsome Chippendale settee, a Charles II carved and silvered book-rest, and Queen Anne bedroom furniture may be mentioned among many other charming things to adorn the modern no less than the period house.

Mr. Gordon Clark's furniture comprises a few select pieces of first-rate quality, notably an exceptionally fine Queen Anne walnut elbow chair with a richly carved splat to the back; and a handsome George II Irish side-table of mahogany with cabriole legs and the characteristically carved "apron" centring in a lion-mask.

CURIUS CROWE.



## OLD ENGLISH BRANDRETHS

The Government's drive against damage by rats should revive the use of these ancient devices. "Staddle stones," one variety of brandreth, are familiar in many a quaint garden. The modern equivalent recommended is up-ended milk churns filled with concrete, or a gorse foundation to the stack.

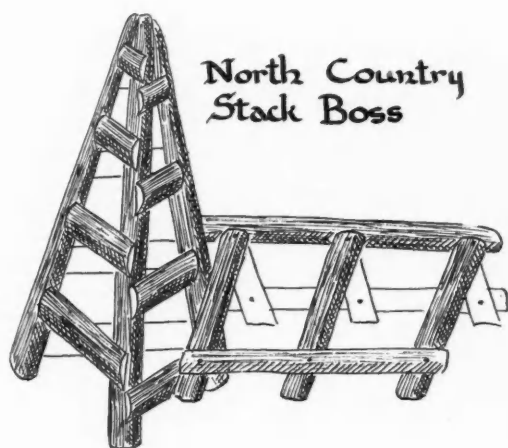
THE art of stack thatching has received its due share of attention from writers interested in rural pursuits over many centuries, but the almost equally important stack foundation seems to have been neglected. In many districts timber balks and brushwood serve quite well, but in moorland areas timber is scarce, and the small hillside farmers are often compelled to resort to old or burnt ling stems. These "collons" are carefully collected for the stack bottom, and they possess the added merit of providing excellent "kindlin'" for the fire once they have served their original purpose.

Such temporary foundations prove quite satisfactory for haystacks, but in the corn-growing districts permanent structures may often be found in the stack-garths, particularly in the Cotswolds and on the Pennine slopes, where they are known as "brandreys," a term derived from the Anglo-Saxon "brandreth." They vary in form, but the most widespread variety consists of two or three rows of upright supports, about two feet high, bearing flat stone slabs on which the timber foundation rests. These serve the double purpose of keeping the stack dry and preventing the ravages of rats, for, while these versatile little creatures can easily climb the stone pillars, they are unable to walk upside down underneath the stone slabs. Many of these brandreths have lain neglected for years, but, with the ploughing up of more land, they are once more fulfilling their intended purpose, and the farmyard fowls



Jack Carr

TIMBER BEAMS RESTING ON STONE "MUSHROOMS"—THE USUAL TYPE



North Country  
Stack Boss

are able to enjoy the fun of scratching among the chaff beneath the stack while the farm labourers' children have a ready-made covered playground. In the Cotswolds, however, most of them have been demolished to serve as garden ornaments.

On the Pennine slopes circular brandreths of an entirely different type are still preserved, some of them dating from the seventeenth century. These early examples consist of two semicircular stone slabs mounted on four upright stone supports, which, at a later date, degenerated into low stone walls. I use the term "degenerated," owing to the fact that the overlap of the stone slabs was often reduced and so they lost part of their original purpose, for they no longer proved capable of keeping out the rats. To those unfamiliar with stack building these circular brandreths may appear exceptionally small, but I have known accomplished stack builders who could erect a stack on a cart-wheel, and it could be rotated, too. One other type of brandreth remains, but examples are rare. It consists of three long parallel walls with a slightly sloping flagged roof, capable of serving as a pig-sty as well as a stack support.

Along the east coast of Scotland and in the north generally a foundation of an entirely different character, known as a boss, truss or stack-centre, is used. This is a pyramidal wooden structure, the purpose of which is to ventilate the stack. As the hot air rises, cool fresh air passes through the base of the stack, a process aided by the stack-centre. When the stack is large, the inroad of fresh air is facilitated by a horizontal structure of a similar nature. Such bosses are constructed of split pine and are usually the work of the village carpenter, although in some districts, where the demand is slight, the farmer will knock his own together.

JAMES WALTON.



SOUTHERN PENNINE RECTANGULAR TYPE



A CIRCULAR STONE-BUILT BRANDRETH: SOUTH PENNINE AREA

## THE "NEW ENGLISH" IN WAR-TIME

By LORD METHUEN

THE possibility of damage by enemy action is no deterrent to the Executive Committee of the New English Art Club, and they are to be congratulated on holding the Club's ninety-first exhibition. It is taking place as usual in the R.B.A.'s Galleries in Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, East. The Exhibition closes on November 16th.

The "New English," which had its roots in the French impressionist school, held its first exhibition in 1886. Its founders sought to free England from the shackles of a Victorian formula that tended to stifle independence and enterprise in painting by its sentimentality and bad taste. Through the appointment in 1892 of one of its leading members, Mr. Fred Brown, as Slade Professor at London University, this society sponsored the development of a brilliant school of drawing and painting, many of whose works were soon to hang on their walls.

In the administrative sphere the members adopted the method of elective juries as in the French Salon of the time, and opposed the closed academic system, thus offering to new blood experience as well as responsibility.

The Club has impressed its views by the sheer merit of the performance of its members on most of the principal schools of art in this country. Its achievements we can follow in retrospect; and, providing the exhibitions retain their natural continuity, it will always play its individual rôle. With very few exceptions, the pictures shown in the present exhibition form a fairly united whole, particularly in the drawing and water-colour rooms. To judge by the exhibitions of recent years, the members evidently and rightly feel that they will achieve a more useful result by allowing the future of the Club to be decided by a natural evolution rather than by the premeditated inclusion of innovations of all sorts that might not only deprive the exhibitions of much of their attraction, but fundamentally change their character.

While the oil paintings, with their wide range of expression both in technique and subject, make a catholic appeal, it is in the first two rooms, containing the drawings, that the charm of the more orthodox exhibitors links us with the best traditional style in English landscape drawing. Of such metal are the exquisite and sensitive sketches by Mr. Wilson Steer, a group of golden trees against a pearly sky and two beach subjects full of peace and harmony: Mr. Philip Connard's "Gravesend," the white liner in the distance contrasting with a four-master with its red hull; and Mr. Ronald Gray's "Valley of Meva-



C. R. W. NEVINSON: THE BATTLEFIELDS OF ENGLAND

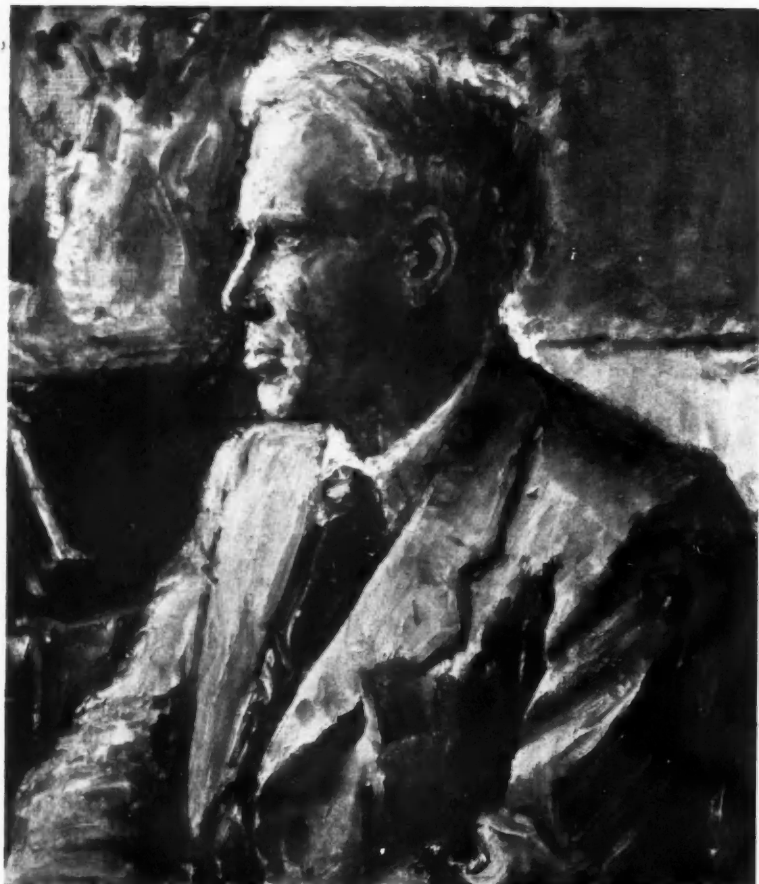
gissey" in the same lyrical mood. Miss Joan Hassall's "Cutler's Wood," in bistre wash, with silvery light breaking through the openings in a wood, and Mr. Charles Cheston's "Langham Mill," with its well grouped poplars and willows, are both excellent drawings. Professor Schwabe sends several drawings of Oxford colleges. A stark and truthful statement is Mr. Naish's landscape "The Cuckoo Pen, Oxfordshire"; Mr. Westwood with economy and freedom of line gives a view of "Shoreham Harbour." Mr. Norman Janes in "The Seine from the Pont d'Austerlitz" has been perhaps too literal and as a result the picture is too crowded. An outstanding portrait in the second room is Mr. Burn's "Sir Joseph Burn, K.B.E." with its brilliant technique.

The Main Gallery and the two small rooms beyond, where the oil paintings hang, make a wider appeal; and were it not for Miss Ethel Walker and Miss Beatrice Bland we might forget the roots through which this association of painters exists and which is so strongly emphasised in the first two rooms.

In portraiture Miss Ethel Walker sends "Holmes Ravenhill, Esq.," probably a good likeness but above all a happy rendering of the play of light on a face in profile. Attractive in an entirely different way is Mr. Juan Stoll's "Young Soldier," an excellent study in type, painted in varying shades of green—and necessarily of khaki—also with a pleasing play of light on the face. In "Soldiers on a Railway Station" the latter painter has given us a clever study; but is it really necessary for English painters so often to depict the British soldier as if he were qualifying for some comic part? Witty he is, without doubt, but not necessarily comic. A good study in character and expression is Mrs. Shore's "Enemy Aliens Outside the Tribunal."

What is probably the most important picture in the Exhibition, and one that may the most interest those who come after us, is Mr. Nevinson's "Flight." This is a gruesome and poignant record of, we presume, the recent retreat through Belgium and France, a brutal statement of shameless deeds against helpless civilians. Also, a good record of the present war is Mr. Nevinson's aerial picture showing aeroplanes diving through clouds, a factory town amid fields seen below.

Among landscapes, last winter's tale of hard frosts and snow is well told by Mr. Stephen Bone in his "Winter in Leamington," a well thought-out statement, balanced in colour

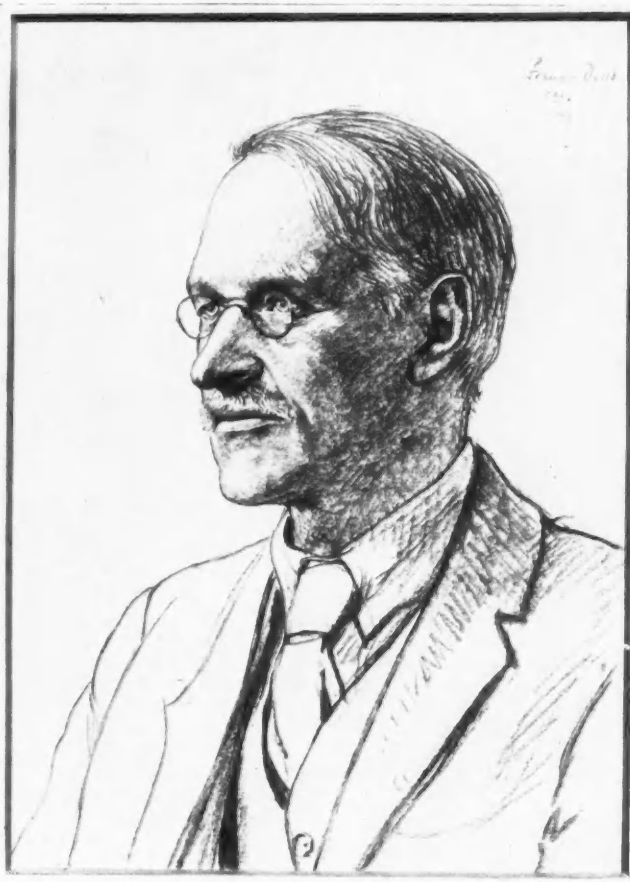


ETHEL WALKER: HOLMES RAVENHILL, ESQ.





RANDOLPH SCHWABE: VANBRUGH HOUSE, OXFORD



FRANCIS DODD: PROF. G. M. TREVELYAN, O.M.

and truthful in tone; and by Miss Elsie Atkins's "Snow in the Quarry Garden" with its pleasant grey tones. Mrs. Barrington-Ward in her "Allotments" has rendered a homely subject with great charm and simplicity. "The First Snowfall 1939," by Miss Beatrice Bland, reminds us how shapely our West Country elms are in their winter dress; while in "A Breezy Morning" we can feel through the same painter's sensitiveness all the emotion of "a lovely day at the seaside," blue sky and sea, fishing villag, and boats lying idly on a sand-bank. Near these two pictures hangs Miss Ethel Walker's "September Wind and Storm,"

one of her free and exquisite studies of surf and breakers on the Yorkshire coast.

Other landscapes of interest are Mr. Benjamin Gibbon's "Landscape with Thistles," a well expressed statement of a passing storm in summer, and Mr. C. Brooke Farrer's "Les Fonds St. Leger." Mr. Albert Rutherford's "Patricia" is an able painting with a pleasing tonal background of pale celadon greens.

There are several flower pieces, one of them Miss Bland's excellent study of "Autumn Roses" in a bowl. And Mr. Karl Hagedorn has placed with laudable results the model of a three-master against a window with roof-tops

and sky behind. Full of life and the shimmer of sunlight is Mr. Purtscher's "Swans."

After a year of war more pictures of military subjects might have been expected. A great number, as we know, have been painted specially for the Ministry of Information, many of which have until quite recently been on exhibition at the National Gallery. Artists, however, are not like journalists, whose essential business it is to be topical. On the contrary, it is the painter's privilege to keep alight those aspects of our art that we value most and through which we find a spiritual or permanent expression.

## EASY WRITING

A REVIEW BY EDITH OLIVIER

FINAL EDITION. Informal Autobiography, by E. F. Benson. (Longmans, 15s.)

**A**GUSHING lady once told Sheridan that she enjoyed his writings because they "were such charmingly easy reading." He replied, with exasperated courtesy: "Easy reading, Madam, is damned hard writing," and the Benson brothers would certainly not have agreed. Writing, for them, was easy—even perilously so. It was *living* which they found a difficult business, and especially living with each other. This very frank "informal autobiography" would have been a tragic document in the hands of anyone with less discretion and human sympathy than its writer. Now and again Mr. Benson confesses to a fear that he may have wasted his gifts by keeping his books on the light (he fears "frivolous") level of those novels of social comedy with which his name is associated; but as one reads of the mental tortures and breakdowns of other members of the family one realises that his own steady sanity was an achievement showing great strength of character; and then—there are the books themselves, with their welcome combination of distinction in style with the depiction of airy trifles.

As people the Bensons were extremely difficult, and almost impossible to live with; but pen in hand, no one could have been more facile. How those pens slid along the pages! How the typewriters must have clicked! Mr. Benson says of his brother Arthur that

"for some years before his death he had been bringing out not less than three books every year, and there would have been more had not his publisher pointed out that this supply was up to the demand." Yet even so, when he died he left behind him sheaves of agreeable and unpublished lectures and sermons, two bulky volumes of ghost stories, a volume of poems, four novels, and the famous diary. This was "a colossal document of 4,000,000 words." By itself it would represent the literary output of any ordinary though most industrious man. Hugh's writing was largely Roman Catholic propaganda, with the addition of some beautiful and imaginative novels; and Maggie wrote one quite important volume of religious philosophy. Certainly writing was as necessary as breathing to the Benson family.

There is one very entertaining and revealing anecdote in this book, describing Mrs. Benson's suggestion that her three sons should each devote an evening to "parodying the work of a brother." These parodies were immensely enjoyable to their authors, immensely irritating to each man parodied; and in themselves were obviously so first-rate that Mrs. Benson begged to keep them for her own reading whenever she felt depressed.

Fortunately, Fred Benson was not only a writer. He was also the only really sociable member of the family; and in FINAL EDITION, as in his earlier autobiographical writings, we have the harvest of his social life preserved in a series of brilliant character studies. Often a

single phrase is enough to recall an atmosphere or a personality. Of Henry James he says that "Of all men I have ever met, he was the most Socratic. . . . In the middle of light superficial talk (his mind) withdrew itself into the depths of the element in which it functioned, like a diving submarine. Just so did Socrates stand meditating throughout a winter's night at Protidæa." And again: "When he talked, the most trivial incident must be dipped in style, as in a Tyrian dye." Of Phil Burne-Jones he says: "By profession he was an amateur painter," and then deftly recalls that gay, surprising gift for caricature which Sir Edward Burne-Jones had curbed when he insisted that his son should become "a serious artist." There is a brilliant picture of the Batterseas and their Xanadu of a house in Norfolk, and a marvellous study of "that astonishing and stimulating woman" Marie Corelli. But one could go on for ever. Suffice it to say that FINAL EDITION is a picture gallery sparkling with portraits in Kitcat dimensions, culminating in a masterly description of municipal life in Rye during Mr. Benson's mayoralty in the nineteen-thirties. This will ever be a valuable historical document.

### TRISTAN RETOLD

Tristan is an ambitious subject for a modern writer. Not only has this book—TRISTAN (Andrew Dakers, 12s. 6d.)—to stand comparison with the old tale-tellers, but such great ones as Tennyson and Swinburne have responded to the Celtic magic and human beauty of the story, and



have produced works whose sheer loveliness has made them known throughout the world. In Miss Hannah Closs's version, Tristan is imaginative, sensitive, and uses his superior intelligence against mere strength in others. King Marc of Cornwall is a man of fine feeling and intelligence, many hundred years before his time in thought. The two Iseults are more conventional, perhaps. The writer occasionally drifts into verse more or less successfully; her prose is colourful, but in a language so rich as our own it seems a pity to use "insolvable" for "insoluble" and "flimmer" as a telescopic form of "flicker" and "shimmer." Her historic sense fails occasionally too. She speaks of Lancelot and his peers, surely Tristan's contemporaries, as if they had lived long before his day. Yet the book is vivid, the fatal attraction of the story holds good, and there is a perception of beauty in every page. Portions of the story would be excellent for reading aloud.

#### THE KEY TO INDIA

In Baber's time he who would be master of India must first be master of Kabul; and the situation has not substantially changed, in spite of the influence of sea and air power. If there were no other, the one abiding and useful lesson to be learnt from *A HISTORY OF AFGHANISTAN*, by Sir Percy Sykes (Macmillan, 50s.), is the importance—indeed, the necessity—for a strong, independent and friendly Government of Afghanistan in the frame-work of Imperial defence. Fortunately, these conditions are, on the whole, present at this time when we most need them; and by far the most significant and interesting part of this truly compre-

hensive and important book is the tale of our own dealings with that virile, proud, and restless people during the last hundred years, of our mistakes—and they were many—of their rectification by great Frontier officers and far-sighted public servants like the Durands, Pottinger, McMahon and many others, whose wisdom and patience bore fruit abundantly in the last war and since. The Afghanistan of Abdur Rahman, of Habibullah, of Amanullah, and Nadir Shah, dates only from 1747, when the Durrani, Ahmad Khan, was elected King by the Afghan chiefs at the age of twenty-three. Before that the country was in turn a province of Cyrus the Great, the Medes, Alexander, the Seleucids, the Sassanids, of Mahmud of Ghazni, Ghengiz Khan, and Tamerlane, of the Moguls, and again of the Persians; and the historian painstakingly builds up its history from the very dawn of civilisation in the Middle East and in the plain of the two great rivers, Tigris and Euphrates. Nearly half of the two volumes is devoted to the limning of the background, and of necessity space has had to be sacrificed which might have been devoted, with advantage in my opinion, to a more detailed survey of modern Afghanistan and its relations with Russia and this country and with Persia since the beginning of the last century. However, this is a minor criticism of a truly monumental work, which will stand as a text book and reference book for many a long year to come. Written with a dry economy of style, without frill and almost without a superfluous word, packed with facts, with praise and blame equally well balanced—he deals very fairly, for example, with the tragic errors of Amanullah—by a man who

spoke with some of the greatest of the early modern European travellers in Afghanistan, followed in their footsteps, and helped to shape the destinies of these high Asian borderlands, it is a real and timely achievement.

#### YORKSHIRE LIFE

Nearly a hundred years of British history are woven into the wool trade chronicles of *THE CROWTHERS OF BANKDAM* (Collins, 9s. 6d.), by Thomas Armstrong. The novel is full of knowledge, both of wool and of Yorkshire men and women; its dialogue is the authentic Yorkshire speech with its devastating forthrightness and dry humour; it has also many scenes that rise to nobility or tenderness. But it suffers from some of the defects common to first novels. The author has filled it too full, both of characters and description; and while he is working up to one of his big scenes his leisureliness is sometimes diffuseness. Nevertheless, here is a young man in love with his work and his subject, a man who thinks clearly, feels deeply, has spiritual integrity, and lacks only as yet the practice that will teach him how to make an even more telling use of his powers.

#### BOOKS EXPECTED

Sir Charles Sherrington's Cambridge University Press volume, *MAN IN HIS NATURE*, should be in our hands almost at once.

Sean O'Casey's play *PURPLE DUST* comes in book form from Messrs. Macmillan next week.

More light on *HESTER LYNCH PROZZI* (Mrs. THRALE) is thrown by James L. Clifford's book of that name to be published at the end of this month by the Oxford University Press.

## FARMING NOTES

FARMERS AND KITCHEN WASTE—SUGAR-BEET ON DAIRY FARMS—CEMENT SUPPLIES—MORE FLAX—A BASIC SLAG SHORTAGE

FARMERS are still hanging back from using the kitchen waste which has been collected in the towns. A big supply is now becoming available. Over 200 local authorities collected nearly 8,000 tons in the month of August, and since then a good many more have started. They are prepared to sell the kitchen waste at about 25s. a ton. This is the price at which local farmers can collect the swill at the local dump. At this figure it is not at all an expensive feeding-stuff—indeed, it offers very good value for the man who is fattening pigs. The law requires that he shall boil it before feeding. This is a necessary precaution to prevent the introduction of disease through scraps of imported meat, and, moreover, cooking improves the food value of the swill. I am not at all sure that this material should really be called swill. In most cases it seems to be dry kitchen waste, and it does not become swill until it has been boiled and taken up a good deal of moisture. The dry kitchen waste which is available from the towns can be handled quite easily, and from this point of view it is an advantage that the boiling is done on the farm rather than in the town. Those farmers who are now using this kitchen waste for pig-feeding or poultry-feeding are well pleased with the results. A great many more farmers could with advantage come into the market and provide an outlet for the kitchen waste from other towns. What Bristol is doing illustrates the way in which the authorities are going to work. Last April Bristolians were asked to keep household scraps in a separate container placed beside the ordinary refuse bin. The ash-man did the collecting all as part of the day's work. To extend the arrangements 500 bins were placed in various parts of the city, mainly in the busy shopping centres. The public were asked to put their scraps of food in the bin and wrappings in a sack placed alongside. In the last week of October 116 tons of pig food were collected and sold. But it would not be so easily sold unless Bristol took pains in the marketing of the product as well as in the collecting of it. All undesirable bits and pieces, such as tins and razor blades, are removed by hand. Then it is thoroughly steamed. Farmers collecting it from areas around Bristol pay 40s. a ton for the treated product and 25s. a ton for the raw stuff.

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Many farmers would like to be able to buy more sugar-beet pulp this winter. It is an excellent feeding-stuff, and helps to make cereals go farther in the ration. Those who have themselves grown sugar-beet this year are allowed 1½cwt. of pulp for every ton of beet delivered to the factory. These allocations will no doubt be taken up promptly by

growers. In ordinary times many of them do not take advantage of this right to a certain quantity of pulp and there has been a surplus which could be sold to other growers who wanted more, or sold to merchants in the ordinary way of trade. This season the beet crop is a light one. The sugar content is exceptionally high, but the weight of roots, and therefore the weight of pulp, is less than usual. Growers will get their 1½cwt. of pulp for every ton of beet, as laid down in their contract, but the sugar-beet pulp that is over is to be allocated to farmers outside the beet-growing districts, particularly dairy farmers. The Ministry of Food is much concerned to see that milk producers have all the feeding-stuffs they need to maintain production during this winter.

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It is now very difficult to get supplies of cement for doing small farm jobs. Even a couple of bags of cement are as precious as gold dust. The local builder cannot supply without a chit from the licensing officer of the area, and the licensing officer will not give his authority for the purchase of cement without the backing of the county war agricultural executive committee. This procedure must be gone through, however small the amount of cement that is wanted. If it is a big job and the estimate cost exceeds £500 a building licence has to be obtained from the same officer in addition to the usual certificate for the release of materials. The Office of Works is responsible for issuing these licences, and there has been a good deal of delay in getting them through. The reason, no doubt, is that the procedure is a new one, but supplies for urgent repair jobs must not be held up by red tape. The supply of cement seems to be an especially difficult problem. The continued demands of the defence programme and the new requirements for air-raid shelters have severely restricted supplies for other purposes. This is understandable, and if farmers cannot get cement they will have to make do with the next best thing.

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Several counties have been asked to find a bigger acreage for flax next year. There should not be much difficulty about this. It is a new crop and farmers do not know much about it, but the Flax Department of the Ministry of Supply are ready to arrange for the supply of the right kind of seed and also for the use of special machinery for pulling the plant. All that the farmer has to do is to carry out the necessary cultivations. I am told that growing flax is little more difficult than growing barley, and if the contract price is right, there should be a satisfactory response to the Ministry of

Supply's demands. More home-grown flax is urgently needed for war purposes, and it is a crop which we can grow perfectly well in this country. It is thanks to the late King George V that we have up-to-date experience of flax-growing in this country. The late King encouraged flax-growing at Sandringham and several farmers in the neighbourhood followed his lead. From the trials made there it has been possible to select the most suitable strains of seed and perfect the methods of harvesting and treating English flax.

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Many complaints are heard about the difficulty of getting basic slag in the south and west of England. There has evidently been a great rush to order slag, and many farmers who never before thought of applying this fertiliser to their grassland have put in orders, with the result that the manufacturers are fully booked up until well into the New Year. On the principle of first come first served the man who puts in an order for slag to-day is not likely to get delivery until February or March unless he is fortunate enough to strike a merchant who had the foresight to order from the manufacturers more than his earlier customers had booked. There does not seem to be any remedy for this shortage. A large tonnage of low-grade material which was not considered worth grinding and marketing in ordinary times is now being dealt with, but even so the supply of basic slag is bound to continue far short of farmers' requirements during the coming winter and spring. There does, however, seem to be plenty of superphosphate about, and the man who wants phosphates and cannot get slag is probably well advised to place an order for superphosphate. This fertiliser, as well as the compound fertilisers to which many farmers have become accustomed in recent years, is in fairly plentiful supply. It may not always be possible to get immediate delivery, but that really does not matter, because the fertiliser will not be applied to the ground until February at the earliest. It is much safer in these days of transport delays and bombing in some industrial areas for farmers to take delivery as early as possible of the fertilisers they will want next spring. This is true of sulphate of ammonia as well as the mineral fertilisers. There is, I am told, plenty of sulphate of ammonia at the works now, and every farmer will be sensible to get what he wants into his barn in November and December before the spring rush starts. Modern sulphate of ammonia keeps perfectly well and does not cake at all seriously in the bags if it is stored on a dry floor in the barn. There is also the consideration that the price rises by 1s. 6d. each month.

CINCINNATUS.

# CORRESPONDENCE

## THE SALWARPE PURSE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of a mediæval embroidered purse, which was found in the church chest at Salwarpe, Worcestershire. In it was an order by King Charles II, dated 1651, addressed to the Constables and Tithing men of Salwarpe and ordering them to send thirty men to work on the fortifications of the city of Worcester; it adds: "You are to bring with you spades, shovels and picks." The bag has now been examined by the experts of the Victoria and Albert Museum, and reported on as follows: "The embroidery is late 13th or early 14th century. It was made into a bag—or purse—in the 14th century at latest. The stitches are couched in chevron pattern. The strap work is split-stitch. The animals are satin-stitch. The green velvet—very early—is applied. Wormsilk is used for the back and ratch. The back of the bag is made up with sheepskin." The photograph gives a good idea of the good state of preservation of the bag, although the colours are faded. Close to the church stands Salwarpe Court, a half-timbered fifteenth-century house. The place is associated with two great families, the Beauchamps and the Talbots; for a time, between them, it formed part of the property settled upon Katherine of Aragon on her marriage.—M. W.



## WORKED IN THE 13TH OR EARLY 14TH CENTURY AND FOUND CONTAINING AN ORDER OF CHARLES II

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—During this past year rock climbing in wildest Britain has attracted many devotees. It is the steady and chosen pursuit of thousands of men and women on leave from the forces, of munition workers, of those taking brief holidays after long spells of arduous duty, as well as soldiers from our distant Empire. The bergs of South Africa, the Southern Alps of New Zealand, the Rocky Mountains of Canada have their mountain clubs, members of which are in the forces, as well as others from allied Norway and Free France.

The towers and pinnacles of the splintered Black Coolin of Skye, the rocks north of the Great Glen of Scotland, are unreachable without special permission. In their place the mighty north face of Ben Nevis, bending 2,500ft. from the Mhuillin Glen, has seen more climbers than ordinary, from England as well as Scotland. The cliffs of the Cairngorms have also been much climbed, though they are remote from village and hotel, and even from a tolerable road. In the central Highlands deer forest and grouse moor are less rigorously guarded. Ghillies and keepers, except the veterans, are with the Colours or in other service far from the hills. The rocks about Glencoe and Buchaille Etive are nearer in miles, but travel by road is restricted, and by train it is tedious. The rationing of foods has caused isolated hotels and inns to take but few guests.

In Cumbria the traffic to the rocks has been steady. Little exploration of new routes has been recorded. Some excellent moderate courses have been forced, but systematic work by skilful com-

bined parties is postponed for lack of trained practice. I have heard of some fine second ascents of really difficult work—also stories that rock faces are steadily being covered with moss and lichens, mud and slime, all the rubbish which slides down a slab, and grass and bilberry flourish on ledges and fill the cracks. Heather, birch and rowan, with fern and bracken, now clutch the lower gorges and choke the screes. A good deal of "gardening" or cleansing will have to be done after victory! Most of the mountain clubs are carrying on, in more or less stunted fashion. The various club huts, about Ben Nevis, in Wasdale and Great Langdale, and about Capel Curig in North Wales, are in fair use at all seasons.

Gritstone climbing in the Yorkshire Pennine, in Derbyshire and Cheshire, is always more of a week-end than a full holiday practice. The standard is always high. Most of the hotels, inns, quarters and farms are occupied by evacuees and not available. In some districts hardly a rock climber has been seen, while in others small parties are regularly at work. Cliffs on grouse moors are still banned and guarded, even for those whose dress is a Service uniform. There seems to be no record of new climbs or discovery of new rock faces of any moment in gritstone country.

North Wales, with its splendid rocks about Snowdon, Lliwedd, Tryfan, and the Glyders, faces the same problem as the Lake District. Evacuees and permanent boarders fill practically all the room, and rationing of essential food discourages any

attempt at casual catering. The Climbers' and Rucksack Clubs have huts near Capel Curig, and the Pinnacle (ladies') in the Gwynant Valley towards Beddgelert, which have a certain share of patronage by members.

The Youth Hostels of England and Wales are carrying on to a fair extent in mountain places; some quarters, however, have been closed down in Wales and Lakeland which would have been useful for the Service rock-climber.—W. T. PALMER.

## "BLEST ISLE! THOU GLORY OF THE WISE AND FREE"

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—There stands, neglected and inconspicuous, at the east end of Windermere parish church, a tombstone the lettering of which is almost unreadable, but for those who take trouble to decipher it a shining light is shed revealing the traditional nature of our present noble cause. The inscription with its inspiring epitaph reads:

"In Memory  
of  
Russell Belfield  
a native of  
ABYSSINIA

who departed this life on the  
16th Day of January 1822  
Aged 32 years.

"A Slave by birth, I left my native Land  
And found my Freedom on Britannia's Strand.  
Blest Isle! Thou Glory of the Wise and Free!  
Thy touch alone unbinds the Chains of Slavery!"  
—C. M. C.

## THREE WEATHERCOCKS

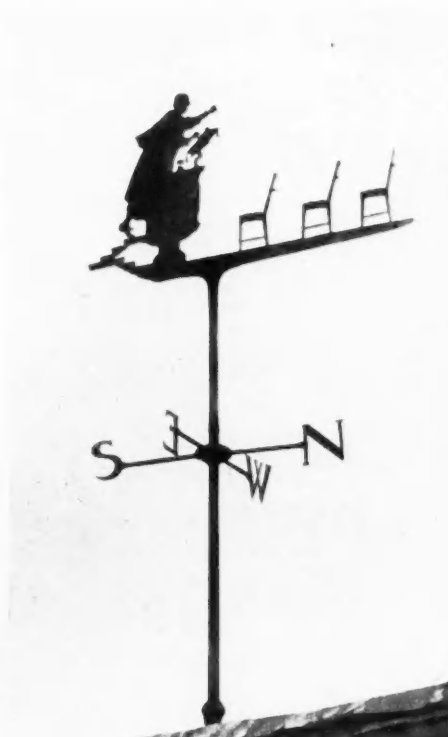
TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—I send you three photographs of weathercocks which I hope you may find interesting enough to publish, though only one is a weathercock in the literal sense. He is a fine, not to say over-sized, bird, who stands proudly aloft on the tower of Priston Church, Somerset. Years ago money for the purchase of a clock left enough over for a weathercock, and an order was given for a bird for "one of the highest towers in England." The cock sent was more suitable for a cathedral than a country church, whose tower in actual fact is not of great height. As there still remained some money over, the villagers celebrated the event by filling the weathercock with beer—and then emptying it. Wincombe Church in Gloucestershire is another that boasts a majestic fowl.

The weathercock on the Town Hall at Buckingham is not a cock but a swan, with pinions raised and breast puffed forward as if about to attack an intruder with a hiss of angry defiance. This noble bird would hardly be taken for a wind-vane, but he revolves on the stone ball which is his perch. The third photograph is of a weather-vane on the roof of the Old Deanery at Sonning. It is in memory of a preacher who did not attract a large congregation.—F. R. W.



ON PRISTON CHURCH TOWER



THE UNSUCCESSFUL PREACHER



THE BUCKINGHAM SWAN





A KAVADY-CARRIER

### LABOUR-SAVING AT TURNIP HARVEST

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Roots, so important for feeding livestock, play an important part in British agriculture, but they also present a difficult problem. Root crops require a large amount of manual labour, especially at harvest time. Statistics tell us that root crops, compared with cereals, absorb about three times as much manual labour. Turnips and mangolds have a proportionately low feeding value, and the rising costs of their production caused by the higher costs of labour makes their production unprofitable. Another grave disadvantage is that the root crops fulfil an important task by reason of their cleansing action on the soil. A continuous lessening of the areas planted with them must do great harm to the whole arable system, resulting, as it does, in a declining fertility of the soil. There are only two ways of altering this state of affairs: to invent simple machines, more effective than human labour; or to discover some labour-saving method.

As regards labour-saving methods, by practical experiments I succeeded in developing a new scheme by means of which turnips can be harvested in half the time: (1) through halving the necessary movements, (2) through lessening the physical effort involved. The scheme may be summarised in a few words. I walk between two rows, pull two turnips at a time—one in either hand—and lay them parallel to each other on one side of the furrow. When the rows are finished I take two small choppers, each about 20ins. long including the wood handle, hold one in each hand, return down the furrow and strike off at the same time the leaves and root of each turnip. The choppers, should be wetted every day; in addition, the wearing of rubber gloves is very useful.

Saving of time and labour is achieved because the turnip need not be lifted so high at pulling, and one need not bend so much when working downhill following the long-handled choppers. In spite of the use of the left hand for cutting, a novice will attain after a short time better results than a skilled labourer using the old method. The reason is that no danger of injuries from the chopper exists, whereas in the old method this danger compels even the skilled worker to observe greater carefulness and therefore results in slower working. To obviate the danger the leaves are mostly cut away with a piece of the turnip top. This implies for the farmer great loss in storage value. With the new method this last disadvantage is overcome very easily, because the turnip is there before the eyes, and, after a short training, skill in cutting off roots and leaves to any length is achieved.

The effect of this new method is astonishing. Statistics show that the ground cultivated with turnips and swedes and other root crops that can be harvested according to the new scheme amounts in the United Kingdom to about 1,000,000 acres. If we reckon for one acre only the very little

saving of eight hours of labour, this means that the full exploitation of the new method assures a saving of at least 8,000,000 hours of labour, or £400,000 of public money a year.—GERHARD KRAUS.

[Mr. Kraus' method has been tried and adopted by a number of farmers, and has received official recognition in a Ministry of Agriculture bulletin.—Ed.]

### PENANCE AT HINDU TEMPLE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—In the rural Hindu temples of Ceylon, great festivals often take place, and this becomes the occasion for pilgrims and devotees to undergo penances. These self-imposed punishments are usually in fulfilment of vows for recovery from serious illness, or for success in litigation, or other matters of everyday life.

During my visits to several Hindu festivals in my district, I have noticed that one of the most popular forms of penance is the carrying of the Kavady along the roads leading to the temple, and around the temple courtyard itself. The Kavady is a semicircular frame decorated with peacock feathers, multi-coloured tinsel, bells, and other adornments. This arched structure is carried on the shoulder by the devotee, who is subjected to other kinds of self-inflicted torture. His cheeks, for instance, are pierced through with silver or nickel prongs, arrows, needles or skewers, and his back is stabbed with silver hooks or steel spikes. In this condition, after the usual preliminary ceremonies, he is driven by a supporter, who holds the man, as it were, in reins. Other relatives or friends accompany him, singing sacred songs or uttering incantations to the gods, and the devotee, in a frenzied or "inspired" state, dances along in his wild career to the temple. Often he stretches forward or sways sideways, pulling his whole weight, but is kept in check by the supporter, who ultimately directs him to the temple. The frantic movements of the devotee are often regulated by the rhythm of the drum.

On his arrival at the temple, the instruments of torture are removed and, holy ash being applied to the injuries, the devotee looks none the worse for his experiences. After the ordeal he bathes in the sacred pond adjoining, and is then fed by the priests. When I asked one of the Kavady-carriers whether he did not feel any pain, he told



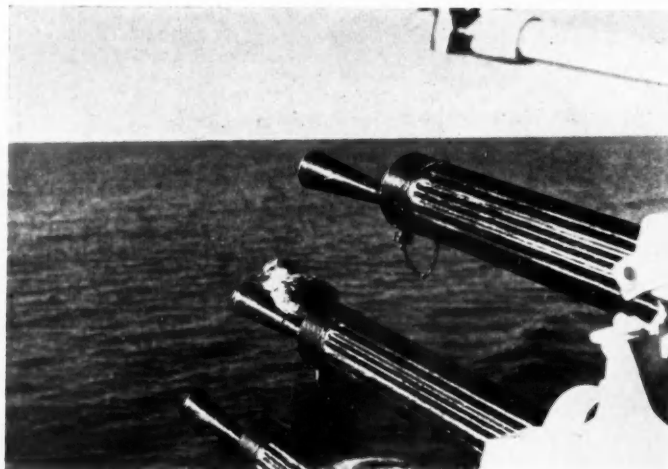
ONE OF THE TWO TURNIP CHOPPERS

me that, being in a spiritually intoxicated state, he was not conscious of his movements, nor was he susceptible to any suffering. Crude as it may appear, the simple faith of the Kavady-carrier struck me with wonder, not unmixed with pity.—S. V. O. SOMANADER.

### THE DOVE OF PEACE

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Slipping from the buoy we steamed out into the inky darkness. Early the next morning—it was the first of the war—the sun was shining brightly, and I went out on deck for the usual morning airing. A number of my shipmates were



THE DOVE ON THE GUN



THE CARRIER'S BACK VIEW

gazing curiously at a bird that had alighted on the guard rails, peacefully oblivious of the attention that he attracted. Instinctively I produced my camera. The bird, a dove, flew on to the deck above and placidly perched on the barrels of our .5in. machine guns. I quietly crept up to the platform. However, there was no need for stealth. The dove was quite unconcerned. It let me approach very close to get my picture. Subsequently it perched there for the rest of the day, undisturbed by groups of interested sailors. Innumerable prints of the photograph were sold among my shipmates, who were rather taken by the picture.

Recently the subject has cropped up again. Several people have confessed to me that they think we are a lucky ship because of the visit of the dove, who cast a spell over us. And they have good reasons for believing this! The very next morning our ship sank a U-boat. Later on a sister ship was despatched ahead to a certain port. It arrived during an air raid, and a bomb, exploding near by, killed several people on deck. After a short stay we left the port, and an hour afterwards it was again heavily attacked. We escorted many convoys, but escaped the attentions of hostile aircraft. Later, we were steaming in company with other ships when we were detailed to escort another vessel back to port, and the ship that took our place was sunk in an air attack. As we neared our destination a U-boat surprisingly surfaced in front of us and was an easy target for us to blow to smithereens. Then we were attacked by Heinkels in a narrow fjord and alone we speeded through the waters for the bombs to fall harmlessly in our stern wake. A few days later we went out on a job, and another warship took our place. Two hours later an aircraft scored a direct hit on her.

Small wonder, then, that my shipmates have faith in our Dove of Peace. It is an omen of the sea; we are a lucky ship, and we think we are going to be lucky throughout the war. We hope to go on accounting for U-boats, planes, transports, and anything that comes our way.—L. C. R.

### THE CAIRN THAT VALETED HER MASTER

TO THE EDITOR

SIR,—I feel I should like to record the amazing behaviour of my little cairn bitch, aged ten and a half. With my family she was sent to the country on the outbreak of war, and has thrived on the free life of hunting hedges and digging for moles. On Saturday I had taken my son out shooting with me, doing odd bits of rough, and he came into tea with burrs stuck all over his woollen pullover. He sat down on the settee alongside the cairn, who immediately started to pull out every burr from the woollen garment and cleaned it. I can only surmise that, having experienced the discomfort of having burrs in her coat, she was determined to relieve her young master of it. It certainly was a pretty picture.—J. V. BANYARD.



# GOLF BY BERNARD DARWIN

## A GREAT SPURT

**A** KIND person has sent me some cuttings about golf in the United States, and since we can have very little golf of our own I hope the reader may be grateful for a little American news, especially as some of it concerns old friends of ours. The main fact that Byron Nelson won the P.G.A. Championship by beating Sam Snead in a great final at Hershey in Pennsylvania has some time since been recorded in our newspapers, but the events leading up to that final have not, and they are not without interest. It appears that after two rounds had been played all Hershey was panting with excitement over the possibility of yet another battle between those deadly rivals whom we know so well, Walter Hagen and Gene Sarazen. Hagen is forty-eight and professes to play golf nowadays only for fun, but there is a vast deal of life in that middle-aged dog yet. He defeated his first two adversaries and then had to meet McSpaden, who is one of the leading professionals in America; he very nearly beat him, but alas! not quite. He was two up at lunch, promptly lost the first two holes afterwards, but struggled back into the lead, and was one up with seven to play. From that point he was not quite so good, but he only lost at the last hole.

That was the end of the hope—it must have seemed almost too good to be true—that Hagen and Sarazen would again confront one another's throats, with the greatest appearance of friendliness but each with a most resolute desire to murder his adversary. In fact, Sarazen did survive, and that against the most formidable possible foe, Henry Picard, the reigning holder of the title, on his own course.

I have never seen the Hershey course, neither

perhaps has any one of my readers; yet I must try to describe the end of the match as best I can, because it must have been one of the most dramatic finishes ever seen and Picard's final spurt, though unsuccessful, one of the bravest and most brilliant. I cannot attempt to rival the writer from whom I cull my news, who calls Sarazen "the Brookfield Squire," I suppose because he has a farm, and Picard "The Chocolate Soldier" for some reason wholly hidden from me. At any rate, Sarazen was three up with three to play; the sixteenth is apparently a par four hole, and Sarazen made no mistake at all. Picard put his second within ten or twelve feet and holed the putt for three. That was one hole gone. The same thing happened at the seventeenth. Again Sarazen was virtuous and orthodox. Again Picard stuck his approach some four yards from the hole, and again, with death staring him in the face, holed the putt. The last hole is a one-shotter, how long I cannot tell, but anyone who knows American courses will guess that it is not easy and that there are plenty of "traps" prowling round the green. Picard, with the honour, rose in his might and laid his tee shot a yard from the pin. Doubtless the reader thinks that this story is going on to the thirty-seventh or thirty-eighth, but it isn't, for Sarazen, undaunted, put his ball eight feet away and holed the putt for a half in two and the match by one hole.

"I am of opinion, brother," said Mr. Petulengro to George Borrow, "that that plastramengro was a regular fine fellow." Put either Picard or Sarazen in the plastramengro's place and the sentiment is mine, and every golfer's—I do not know which to admire most, but my heart goes out to Sarazen, for he certainly had a lot to endure. He was no doubt

out for the blood of Picard, who had trampled on him severely in the match between the Ryder Cup team and their challengers. He seemed to have his revenge safe and then to have two threes and a two fired at him was fierce indeed. When at the last hole he saw Picard's ball lying as near as might be stone dead from the tee, bitterness must have welled up in his soul. After that, to lay his own shot so close and hole the putt was heroic. By the irony of Fate, he had much the same sort of thing done to him in his next match, and this time he did not shake off the enemy's spurt. At least, he was three up with some eight to play on Snead, and then was beaten, but it seems to have been due to some extent to his own mistakes. Picard must have taken it out of him, and even Gene is not quite so young as he was.

This P.G.A. Championship in America corresponds with our *News of the World*, and it is natural to try to recall great spurts of our own. One comes readily to mind, that of Dai Rees in the final against Ernest Whitcombe at Oxhey in 1936, when he was five down with, I think, fourteen to play and won at last. My goodness gracious! how he did putt! The other many people will not remember so well, for it took place nine and twenty years ago and it was not successful. Yet it deserves remembering. Ray was playing Braid in the final at Walton Heath, of all places, and he was six down at the turn in the second round. Was there ever a more hopeless situation? Nevertheless, that match went to the home hole, and if ever I saw the great Braid just the least bit in the world shaken it was then. He played the home hole like a book and got his four to win the match, but I imagine he did not want to play any more.

# NOTTINGHAM: A GREAT DAY'S RACE-MEETING

**N**OTTINGHAM bloodstock enthusiasts, and very evidently there is no scarcity of them, were singularly favoured by the Jockey Club in being granted two separate fixtures on the Monday and the Saturday, in one week. Both were very successful; the former in that the representative attendance was afforded an opportunity of witnessing a victory in the Royal colours which was particularly pleasing at the present time; the latter in that the best of the juveniles and the older horses were seen in competition rather after the manner usually associated with the programmes presented for racing on the Royal heath at Ascot. Merry Wanderer, the King's representative, is a youngster who comes from among the first crop of runners by the late Sir Abe Bailey's young sire Robin Goodfellow, who is due to come under the hammer at the forthcoming December Sales, and is out of Frivole, a Friar Marcus mare who was bred by King George V and came from the imported mare Torpille, she by the French Derby victor Negofol. This is a well moulded, nice-topped, easy-actioned colt who, as one of the Son-in-Law stirp, will improve with age; he seems sure to win more good races, but it is doubtful if he will ever be up to classic form, though he holds engagements in next year's original Two Thousand Guineas and Derby.

As the Cambridgeshire—the second leg of the autumn double—was the most popular event on the Saturday card it can be dealt with first, though really there is not much to write about it. Of the

fifteen starters, the Lincolnshire Handicap winner Quartier Maitre and Lord Monck's Bacardi, who was generally considered to be leniently treated by the handicapper, were most in demand in a weak market, but two better than the former were forthcoming in the blinkered Caxton and the nine year old Heavy Weight, who finished half a length and a neck in front of him, while Bacardi was not, officially, placed. Starting at the remunerative odds of 100 to 7, and so little fancied by his connections that his trainer, Sam Armstrong, attended the Edinburgh meeting instead of journeying south, the winner is an American-bred four year old gelding by Hyperion's half-brother Sickle, a Phalaris horse who was bred by Lord Derby and won three races of

£3,915 as a youngster in this country before, later on, being exported to the States, while his dam, Esmeralda II, is by the French Derby winner Alcantara II. On his first arrival in this country from America Caxton ran in the colours of his breeder, Mr. Joseph Widener, and was trained by Captain Boyd Rochfort at Newmarket, but was sold to Sam Armstrong, the Middleham trainer, at one of the Newmarket Sales of 1938 for 1,650gs. on behalf of his present owner, Major T. Rigg. Though this handicap was the appealing feature to the general public, the New Jockey Club Cup, which was in reality a substitute Ascot Gold Cup; the New Cheveley Park Stakes, confined to two year old fillies; and the New Middle Park Stakes, for mixed youngsters, were of

far more importance as real tests of merit without the help or the interference of the handicapper. Directly after Mr. Herbert Blagrove's French-bred colt, Atout Maitre, had won the Gold Vase at Ascot last year he was mentioned in this column as the most likely danger to the Derby winner Blue Peter in the St. Leger, and later on was suggested as the actual winner in the final article dealing with the Doncaster event. Unfortunately the last of the classics did not eventuate, and thoughts were turned, with his name again in prominence, to this year's Ascot Gold Cup or the proposed substitute race at Newmarket. Neither of these came off, but now, by his win at Nottingham, Atout Maitre has shown that, but for the exigencies of war, he might easily have had a classic and a Gold Cup to his credit. Possibly it is inadvisable to stress



W. A. Rouch

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ATOUT MAITRE—"THE BEST OF HIS AGE IN ENGLAND"

these "might have beens," but when a horse who, according to his owner-trainer, has not been going too well in his work comes out with a strange jockey on his back and gives a horse like Hunter's Moon IV, who had just previously won the Cesarewitch with top weight, a four-lengths' beating, with others like King Legend, Quick Ray and the Irish Derby winner Turkhan six lengths and more in the rear, over two and a half miles and all at level weights, it is apt to make the most prosaic writer enthusiastic and, at any rate, hand out congratulations to his owner on the possession of a very, very good horse that later on as a stallion should be invaluable to English breeders. Atout Maitre's breeding has been referred to in detail so often that here it can suffice to say that he is by the French Two Thousand Guineas winner Vatout from Royal Mistress, a Teddy mare of the

No. 4 Bruce Lowe family. Like the Derby winner Bois Roussel, he was bred in France by M. Volterra.

The present season, or better so-called season, has been so patchy and cut up that the two year old problem has been more difficult of solution than ever. The Newmarket-Nottingham week was expected to clarify this, and in a way it did, as, by her win in the New Cheveley Park Stakes, Mr. Peter Beatty's unnamed Rosetta filly proved herself to be without a doubt the best of her age and sex, as not only had she Miss Pinafore and Mons Meg behind her as her nearest attendants but the hitherto unbeaten Gold Lily was unplaced in the rear, probably finding the distance a furlong too far. In every way a nice filly with plenty of scope, the winner is by Blandford's son Umidwar, while her dam, Rosetta, is a

Kantar mare from Swynford's daughter Rose Red.

With the colts no such definite opinion can at present be advanced, as, though Mr. A. F. Basset's chestnut son of Hyperion, Hyacinthus, won the New Middle Park Stakes in sparkling style from the unbeaten Morogoro and Starwort, who was meeting him on 5lb. better terms than when he defeated him at Newmarket, it is better to wait in the hope that a further opportunity of seeing the young colts in action will occur. Had the Official Handicapper to compile his Free Handicap for Two Year Olds at the moment, Hyacinthus would automatically head the list, but it goes against the grain to suggest a half-bred, even though by Hyperion, as worthy of such a position, and the matter can be left over for future consideration. ROYSTON.

## THE ESTATE MARKET

### SALES AND LETTINGS

**S**IRELLIOT PHILIPSON-STOW having sold the Blackdown estate, near Haslemere, Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley are to offer the property by auction at an early date in many lots. The estate, of 1,591 acres, includes Blackdown House, a stone Tudor residence rich in oak panelling, Blackdown Farm and seven other large holdings, and many cottages. The estate has been the subject of large expenditure, and it is in perfect order throughout.

Blackdown House and land are on the south and south-west slopes of Blackdown, and from points rising to 800ft. above sea level some of the finest scenery in the south of England is visible. Oak and chestnut flourish in some 600 acres of woodland and the estate affords many first-rate sites for residential development. Blackdown House is a spacious structure, containing a lounge hall, seven reception-rooms, a dozen or more principal bedrooms and about as many secondary bedrooms, and the modernity of its equipment is seen in that there are four or more bathrooms. Private offers for the purchase of Blackdown House before the auction would be considered. The estate is four miles from Haslemere, and two from the pretty village of Fernhurst.

For Sir Elliot Philipson-Stow, Messrs. Hampton and Sons held an auction of the contents of Blackdown House on the premises on November 5th-7th (inclusive). The catalogue specified about 850 lots, among them much fine furniture in the Louis XV and Louis XVI styles, pianofortes, a full-sized billiard table by Thurston, pictures by John Crome, J. M. W. Turner, B. W. Leader, Birket Foster, and other noted artists, as well as bronzes, sculptures, Persian carpets, and clocks by well-known makers.

#### PEMBROKESHIRE COAST SALES

**M**UCH of the present month, from Wednesday the 13th onwards, will be taken up by the sale of exceedingly valuable collections in two well known residences on the Pembrokeshire coast. Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff announce that by order of the Official Receiver they begin a seven-days' auction at what is known as Tenby Castle, Tenby, and on November 25th and 26th they will sell the contents of another property, The Cottage, Lydstep, four miles west of Tenby. Judging from the preliminary notice of the auctions, the sale is important, including as it does early English and French furniture, books, ivories, bronzes, armour, silver and pewter, a splendid assortment of china, and paintings "by or attributed to" some of the world's greatest artists. The foregoing items are at the Tenby house, and the Lydstep sale will include remarkable old furniture from Jersey, Brittany and elsewhere, a great quantity of the best modern furniture, another important collection of paintings, china (among it examples of Nantgarw), silver, and many leaden garden statues.

Hitcham Place, Burnham, between Dropmore and Cliveden and close to Taplow, has been privately sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley. The modern house, in the Tudor style, contains oak and walnut doors that were removed from Old Walsingham House. The grounds are noted for their specimen conifers and other trees, and the wealth of flowering shrubs. The sale includes about 21 acres, the highest land in the district. Berkshire sales by Messrs. Simmons and Sons,



RIDGECOURT, WOODCOTE PARK, EPSOM

at an auction at Reading, include Halls, a freehold at Calcot, of just over 10 acres, for £1,000.

With about four acres of land, Ridgecourt, Epsom, which stands some 350 feet above sea level with magnificent views over Epsom Downs, is for sale by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. The house, built about ten years ago, is in perfect repair, and has seven or nine bedrooms, a large lounge and three reception rooms. There is a gas-proof shelter. The grounds are beautifully timbered, and there is a hard tennis court.

#### EAGER BUYING OF FARMS

**F**ROM all parts of the country come reports of keen competition for farms, but the number of opportunities for purchasers becoming more and more restricted.

Chilpey Abbey Farm, 150 acres at Poslingford and Hundon, changed hands under the hammer of Messrs. Alfred Darby and Co. at a Suffolk auction at Clare for £1,720.

Lincolnshire freehold farms, with the right to immediate entry, have been sold at Louth by Messrs. Dickinson, Davy and Markham for £12,700, namely, Cawkwell House and 653 acres, at Cawkwell, for £9,700, and Station, 277 acres at Authorpe for £3,000.

If a property is offered by auction without reserve it must be sold to the highest bidder, or, if there be but one bid, to the bidder at whatever price is offered. Compared with the possibilities of such an auction, even the lowest reserve is something less risky for the vendor. An "upset" price of £1 has been placed on a Dumbartonshire leasehold house and 7 acres on the shore of Loch Long, four miles from Kilmcraggan Pier. Messrs. Walker, Fraser and Steele hold the auction in Glasgow on November 13th.

Wincham, a freehold detached house in Princess Road, just off the main Poole road at Westbourne, was sold on the premises by Messrs. Fox and Sons for £1,000 a few days ago.

The Church Farm, Boningale, 196 acres, realised £7,750 at a Wolverhampton auction, through Messrs. Nock and Joseland.

New Farm, 173 acres, freehold with immediate possession, was sold for £5,200 by Messrs. Howkins and Sons in Coventry. Other lots, also in the Warwickshire village of Wolston, 12 acres in all, changed hands for £480.

A Lancashire freehold at Out Rawcliffe, Wilson House Farm, 92 acres, with immediate

entry, realised £4,600 under the hammer of Messrs. E. G. Hothersall and Sons, Limited, at a Preston auction.

#### RENTS AND PRICES

**A**PPARENTLY, judging from some offers of property on a tenancy or for sale, a few owners are looking for a return of approximately 6 per cent. Such a rate is in such violent contrast with what can be obtained for money invested in other directions that it is unlikely to go unquestioned by applicants for a tenancy. The stated terms of certain current announcements of country tenancies work out at more than double what the alternatively mentioned price would yield if invested in the highest interest-producing of Government stocks. Where a reliable tenant can be found to undertake all responsibilities, so that the rent is a net one, most owners would be glad to-day to get a net return of 4 per cent. That may be less than miscellaneous industrial and similar investments promise, but these lack the permanence and security that is the prime attraction of real property. Especially is this true of land, and particularly of farms. Judiciously selected country houses, too, should be a good investment, for a considerable eventual enhancement in value can be expected, current prices being, generally speaking, pretty low, except in districts that are reputed to enjoy a complete or comparative immunity from enemy action.

#### LETTINGS "FOR THE DURATION OF THE WAR"

**M**OST of the houses now for sale alike in London and the country can be taken on a tenancy. Owners are mostly ready enough to agree to any reasonable offer of a rental, and the duration of the tenancy can be easily settled to meet the wishes of a would-be occupier. The one thing that prudent agents and owners avoid, though some offers still embody it, is the use of the expression "for the duration of the war," that being of an ambiguity that might lead to unwelcome results, even litigation. The received opinion of the interpretation of those words is "the date of the Official Declaration of the termination of hostilities," and a clue to what that may imply can be seen in that, though the fighting on all but one theatre of the 1914-18 war came to an end on November 11th, 1918, the Official Declaration of the termination of hostilities was not made until some two or three years afterwards.

Looking at the terms that can now be had for tenancies of town and country houses, it will be clear that owners and tenants may in certain circumstances find themselves in a very awkward position should they be counting on being free of any obligation in regard to a property that has been let for the duration of the war. It is indeed imperative to avoid the use of a phrase that may give a certain type of owner, on the one hand, or tenant on the other, an advantage that was never contemplated by one party to the agreement. Experience shows that it is folly to rely on fair dealing where a good many people are concerned, in property matters, and the path of safety for those who would not be disillusioned lies in having everything in writing, stamped, if necessary, and specific dates of various possibilities fixed. ARBITER.



FAIR OR STORMY



LODGE  
PLUGS

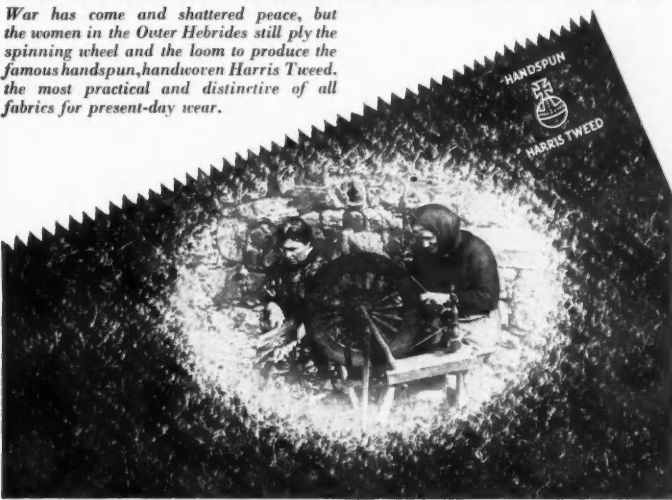
are dependable under  
all conditions of  
motoring



Made in England—entirely—by Lodge Plugs Ltd., Rugby.

A PRODUCT OF TRADITIONAL CRAFTSMANSHIP

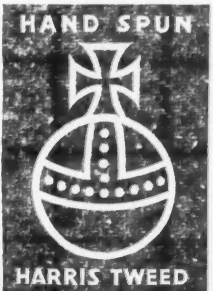
War has come and shattered peace, but the women in the Outer Hebrides still ply the spinning wheel and the loom to produce the famous handspun, handwoven Harris Tweed, the most practical and distinctive of all fabrics for present-day wear.



HARRIS TWEED

HARRIS TWEED was first made by the people of the Outer Hebrides to protect themselves against the gales and mists which sweep across these far-off isles. To protect the craftsmanship of the islanders, the Harris Tweed Trade Mark has been registered by order of the Board of Trade. The Trade Mark with the word HANDSPUN above it, stamped on the cloth itself, is an absolute guarantee that the tweed has been made entirely by hand from pure Scottish wool. The yarn must be spun by hand on the spinning wheel and woven by hand at the homes of the islanders. Every process must be carried out in the Outer Hebrides—the home of Harris Tweed.

The word HANDSPUN above the Trade Mark is a definite assurance that the cloth so stamped is a handspun Harris Tweed made in exactly the same way as has been done for generations.



LOOK FOR THE MARK ON THE CLOTH

HARRIS TWEED

Issued by The Harris Tweed Association Limited, 5 Coleman Street, London, E.C.2

SOLUTION to No. 563

The winner of this crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of November 9th will be announced next week.

G	A	L	L	O	P	S	I	D	I	L	L	I	C
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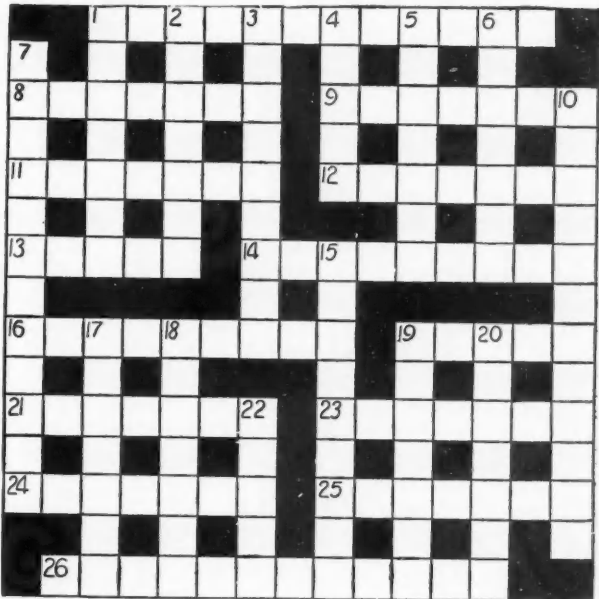
ACROSS.

- Two residences, but all under one London roof (two words, 7, 5)
- "A murder" (anagr.) (7)
- As crabs may turn into insects (7)
- A very light knock-me-down (7)
- Sacred as the bark was to the Spaniard (7)
- It is in the account, I'll wager. Up to what date? (5)
- St. Michael's Port might be an alternative name for it (9)
- Reveals (9)
- Is it easier to get into than out of for a lady rider to hounds? (5)
- "Engrave" (anagr.) (7)
- It is not a matter of the age of land but of its dimensions (7)
- The C.I.D. man does his stuff (7)
- Lose weight (7)
- A bird in the carpenter's shop (12).

DOWN.

- Biting (7)
- This whale ran backwards and lost its tail (7)
- Members of the French Academy (9)
- "Drawn with a team of little atomies Athwart men's — as they lie asleep."—Shakespeare (5)
- A pain in the ear (7)
- It brings a breath of the briny (two words, 3, 4) (7)
- But its territory has been discovered several centuries now (12)
- This disease is not Russo-mania (two words, 7, 5)
- No one believed what she said (9)
- After drawing the sword, he hates to do this by way of a change (7)
- As is the mind of reason (7)
- She takes a vowel for a consonant. What courage! (7)
- "A plague of sighing and grief! It blows a man up like a —." —Shakespeare (7)
- Farmers must do so each year, but not where the pig is concerned (5)

"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 564



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# CLOTHES TO-DAY

## THE NEW DRESSING- GOWNS

By ISABEL CRAMPTON

**A**MONG the garments that have changed a great deal in style or materials in recent years our dearly loved dressing-gowns must certainly be included. They must still—for the winter, of course—be warm, and the colours and materials used cover a very wide range; but nowadays they must be easily got into and easily shed, and no unnecessary adornments must make them difficult to pack. Anyone who can remember some of the majestic dressing-gowns of the 'nineties, in thick woollen fabrics with rich velvet belts and epaulettes, heavily pleated sleeves, and dozens of hooks and eyes to do up and as many buttons, must welcome the change. The ever-useful "zip fastener" plays a most useful part nowadays; for instance, the very pretty woollen dressing-gown shown above opens from neck to hem in an instant by its aid. This dressing-gown, with its lovely Princess line, pretty collar and *appliqué* velvet trimming to match, may be had from Messrs. Derry and Toms (99, Kensington High Street, W.8) in three different blues—hyacinth, Firenze, and turquoise—or in wine colour. The other, in an all-wool velour, has belt and piping in a contrasting colour—turquoise on wine, coral on green,



(Above)  
IN WOOL VELOUR WITH  
BELT AND PIPING IN CON-  
TRASTING COLOURS

(Top right)  
A GRACEFUL PRINCESS  
TYPE OF DRESSING-GOWN  
WITH VELVET TRIMMING  
AND ZIP-FASTENER FROM  
THROAT TO HEM  
(Derry and Toms)

Dover Street Studios

lilac on hyacinth or lilac on Margaret Rose, which I am told is a pastel pink. The cosy *pantcufles* come from the same shop. What I particularly like about both dressing-gowns is that they are dignified and becoming garments in which in these days, when one never knows what sudden call may bring one downstairs, no one need feel at any disadvantage.

In what we used to call the "Great War" one of the things that most cheered me was the continued advertising by all the best and biggest shops of pretty clothes. Messrs. Liberty's (Regent Street, W.1) new and lovely "Autumn Dress Book" has had the same tonic effect, and it has added to it that the prices quoted should be so very moderate. A cloth dress trimmed with velvet at six and a half guineas is really distinguished and just what the woman with a slightly Parisian taste will like, while for the woman who prefers something very English and soft in line and colour, a prettily pleated dress with a square neck in printed woollen delaine could not be bettered. Evening coats and skirts and children's clothes are equally nice and moderately priced. A second catalogue, dealing with Liberty coats, and coats and skirts, and hats, came with it, and I thought particularly interesting a llama coat with a padded interlining to take the place of fur, and a reversible coat in tweed on one side and plain black, brown, green or navy woollen on the other. Messrs. Liberty are specialising in helping their customers to shop by post; patterns of both dress and furnishing materials are sent very generously; many styles can be copied to special measurements; and as long as present stocks last they will be sold free of purchase tax.

## RABBITS!



In raised position, erected between feeding ground and burrows

The release line drops the net, thus intercepting and entangling the rabbits as they are driven to burrows.

**A Pair of Rabbits can produce 250 Young in a Year...**

so start protecting your crops now with the Collington Rabbit Net Device—recognised as the most satisfactory and convenient method of catching large numbers of rabbits. May be set at any time—effective under all weather conditions—requires little time to erect—simple to operate—rabbit carcasses unspoilt.

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**ACCLES & SHELVOKE, LIMITED,**  
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